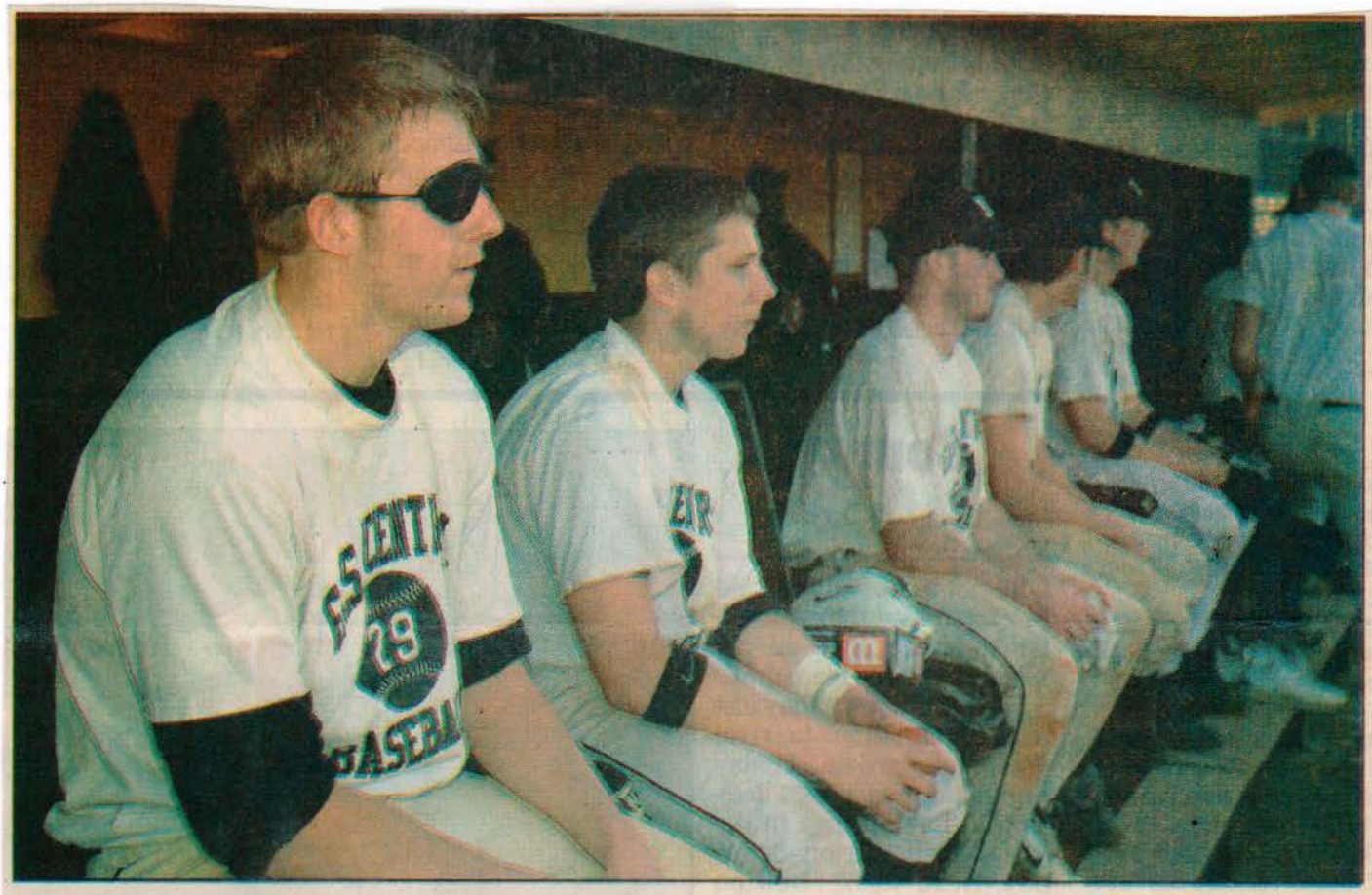

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE PHOTO

East Central Community College pitcher John Fortenberry, left, is attempting a comeback after being struck in the eye last season during a pre-season scrimmage that broke several bones in his face.

One year later

East Central's John Fortenberry back on the mound after devestating eye injury

By Maria McLeod
Special to The Record

What a difference a day makes. What a difference a year makes, especially if you're John Fortenberry. Jan. 23, 2004 was just like any other day for the East Central Community College freshman. After classes he rushed to the baseball field preparing for another practice session with his fellow Diamond Warriors.

The day ended with Fortenberry being rushed to the hospital after a line drive during a intra-squad scrimmage crushed his right eye and shattered most of the bones around it.

However, it is 2005. A year, almost to the day, after Fortenberry's dreams of a baseball career were almost shattered along with his eye, he's back on the mound doing what he loves best: Pitching.

So why would he attempt another shot on the mound after such a devastating injury? And how does losing his right eye affect his pitching?

See **PITCHER**, Page 3B

Inside

Diamond Warriors begin season this week

– Page 3B

"I've always dreamed of playing baseball. I still want to see if I can make it work. And I like to prove people wrong. So many have said that I would never play again."

John Fortenberry
ECCC pitcher

WEEK OF Feb 7

Cont'd

Pitcher

From Page 1B

"I've always dreamed of playing baseball. I still want to see if I can make it work. And I like to prove people wrong. So many have said that I would never play again.

"As far as my pitching, there has been no major change, except that I can't catch a pop-up fly (ball)," Fortenberry said.

Head coach Jake Yarborough was also pleased to see Fortenberry back on the mound.

"John is doing fine. He's healthy and seems happy to be back. I expect him to have a big impact on the team this year and to have time on the mound," Yarborough said.

Since that fateful January day, Fortenberry has had six surgeries and has three plates and 19 screws in the right side of his face. It is only natural that he would be a bit nervous each time he steps on the mound.

"I threw one time this summer for a semi-pro team. That was the first time since my surgery and the worst so far. My first game at East Central was this fall against Mississippi Delta (Community College). It was a little scary," he said.

Perhaps the most nervous spectator is his mother, Dawn Fortenberry.

"It's just God and determination that has brought him this far," she said. "The doctors tried to talk him out of playing. They said he was fortunate to have survived and even compared his injuries with those received in a head-on car collision. But he's determined and we're hoping for a better year than ever."

Although they couldn't convince him to stay away from baseball, doctors did insist that Fortenberry wear a type of facemask used mostly by bull riders to protect his face, something that eases his parents' minds.

"I'm nervous," said Dawn Fortenberry, "but the face cage does make it easier. His dad (Cookie Fortenberry) and I are proud of him and we're glad he has the guts to get back out there. He just has a true love for baseball."

Dawn Fortenberry also said she is glad to see a bill introduced in the legislature that bans aluminum bats.

"We hope that this (bill) is passed," she said. "John hopes this never happens to anyone else and we hope that no parents ever have to go through what we went through."

Whatever happens, John Fortenberry said he is just glad to be back.

"I want to do real good this year and if things go well, continue on to another level," he said.

After his next check up with doctors, Fortenberry will have a new prosthetic eye made. Although it is possible he will have to undergo additional surgery, Fortenberry is in hopes he has completed his treatments and is looking toward a bright future on the baseball diamond.

Fortenberry and the East Central Community College Diamond Warriors begin season action at 2 p.m. today in a doubleheader with Copiah-Lincoln Community College at Jamie Clark Memorial Field on the Decatur campus.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

ECCC Diamond Warriors host Co-Lin Feb. 9 in season opener

After struggling through last's year 12-29 campaign - which was hampered by injuries to several key players - the outlook seems much brighter this season for the East Central Community College baseball team.

The Diamond Warriors, who begin 2005 action by hosting Copiah-Lincoln Community College in a 2 p.m. doubleheader at Jamie Clark Memorial Field on Wednesday, February 9, are healthy and ready to get the season underway, said fourth-year head coach Jake Yarborough.

Although Yarborough was hesitant to predict wins and losses, he is confident that this year's squad has what it takes to be successful. "This is the best defensive team that we have had in a while. We are very solid on the infield and we've got good speed in the outfield. Our pitchers are especially excited about our defense. We also have good team speed, and I expect us to be successful running the bases," Yarborough stated.

Among players who experienced a season-ending injury was freshman pitcher John Fortenberry of Carthage, who many thought had suffered career-ending injury. Fortenberry lost an eye after being struck by a hard-liner during a preseason scrimmage. Despite the handicap, Fortenberry said he is optimistic about returning to the mound.

"I always dreamed of playing college baseball, and I still want to see if I can make it work. I guess I also like to prove people wrong. So many have told me that I would not play again," Fortenberry stated.

He added, "I want to do real good this year and if things go well, maybe I can continue my career at a four-year college or university."

Yarborough said Fortenberry is adjusting well to his return to the team.

"John is doing fine. He's healthy and happy to be back. I expect him to have a big impact on the team this year. I also expect him to have a good season on the mound," Yarborough said.

Yarborough said top returnees on the pitching staff include Josh Miller of Elysian Fields, Texas; Cody Savell of Newton County and Kevin Hatch of Carthage, each of whom had impressive stats during fall competition.

Miller, a 6-1, 193-pound southpaw from Elysian Fields, Texas, put up the most impressive numbers last fall by fanning 28 batters in 22 innings of work. He allowed 15 hits.

Savell, a 6-3, 216-pound right-hander, also had a successful fall campaign as he struck out 17 batters over 18 innings and also gave up 15 hits.

Hatch, a 6-5, 205-pound right-hander, posted 12 strike outs in 18 innings of work and allowed 13 hits. Yarborough said Hatch, a sidearm hurler, will be the top reliever this spring.

Another top returnee on the mound is Andre Coleman (6-2,176) of Louisville.

Yarborough said top sluggers during fall competition were Corey Coward of Noxapater, Van Wilson of West Lauderdale, Taylor Petty of Neshoba Central and Marcus Davis of Magee.

Coward, a 6-2, 212-pound catcher/first baseman, batted .422 with one home run and seven doubles last fall. He completed the 2004 season with a .423 average and had two home runs, four doubles and 13 RBIs.

Wilson (6-1,197), an outfielder, posted a .360 average and slugged two home runs and five doubles during fall competition. Petty (6-1, 165), a catcher/outfielder, also batted .360, and Davis, a 6-3, 199-pound outfielder/pitcher, had a .306 average with two home runs. Davis batted .289 in 2004 and had five home runs, two triples, four doubles and 27 RBIs.

Serving as Yarborough's assistant is Dusty Hillman, who joined the coaching staff last fall after serving as a member of the Mid-Missouri Mavericks, an independent professional baseball team based in Columbia, Missouri.

Hillman, a former standout at William Carey College, Delta State University and Taylorsville High School, is responsible for infielders and base runners, and has weight room responsibilities.

"Coach Hillman works well with our players. He demands a lot from our guys and makes them accountable. He is a great addition to the coaching staff," Yarborough said.

The complete 2005 roster includes sophomores Andre Coleman (pitcher/outfielder) of Louisville, Brandon Ezell (second base/third base), Bud Loper (short stop/pitcher) Will Pearson (first base/outfield) and Joseph Cavenaugh (outfielder), all of Newton County; Josh Miller (pitcher) of Elysian Fields, Texas; Kevin Hatch (pitcher) of Carthage, Corey Coward (catcher/first base) of Noxapater, Cody Savell (pitcher) and Lucas Poole (pitcher), both of Newton, Marcus Davis (outfielder/pitcher) of Magee and Van Wilson (outfielder) of West Lauderdale, and freshmen Jon Maxie (short stop) and Dillon McInnis (outfielder), both of Greene County; Sam Thames (second base) of Newton Academy, James Harris (short stop), Ken Gordon (catcher) and John Harris (outfielder), all of Morton; Travis Butler (outfielder) and Taylor Petty (catcher/outfielder), both of Neshoba Central; Jon Cole (pitcher) of Brandon, Josh Hawkins (catcher) and Wes Cox (first base), both of Forest; Chris Pierce (second base) of Petal, Justin Millinax (pitcher) of Albertville, Ala.; Keith Edwards (third base) of Louisville, John Fortenberry (pitcher) of Carthage and Ross Pine (pitcher/first base) of Live Oak, La.

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WEEK OF Feb 7

Warriors pound out 15 runs, sweep Jones Junior College

By Tony Krausz
sports editor

DECATUR — East Central Community College has enjoyed instant success on its home field to start the 2005 baseball season.

The Warriors (4-0) swept their second home doubleheader on Saturday, defeating Jones Junior College 8-0 and 7-5. ECCC swept Copiah-Lincoln on Thursday to open the season.

"We have felt good about our defense, and our pitchers are giving us a chance to make plays in the field," said ECCC head coach Jake Yarborough, whose team travels for one doubleheader — Gulf Coast on Feb. 17 — in its first seven playing dates. "We have a lot of improvements we still have to make, but I'm very proud by how my team is playing."

Warriors right fielder Van Wilson may be enjoying the friendly confines of ECCC's home field the most.

The West Lauderdale product hit his third home run of the season, a two-run shot in the third inning of the first game, on Saturday. Wilson hit a home run in each game of Thursday's doubleheader.

"Somebody needs to wake me up right now, I believe I'm in a dream right now," said Wilson, who was a medical redshirt last season. "Me and my roommate (center fielder Marcus Davis) have been doing a lot of extra hitting. I believe we are a step up right now."

As favorable as playing at home was for ECCC, the road was just as unfavorable to JCJC.

The Bobcats (0-2) committed six errors in the two games, and neither of JCJC's starting pitchers made it past the second inning.

> *We put (the ball) in play. Baseball is a crazy game, and when you put the ball in play anything can happen.*
>
> ECCC right fielder
> Van Wilson

"We made a lot of errors, hit a lot of batters and walked a lot of batters," said JCJC head coach Bobby Glaze. "I feel we played passive. You can't take anything away from East Central. They played great. They put the ball in play, scored runs and made all the plays."

ECCC had no such fielding or pitching problems in getting its second sweep of the year. The Warriors committed just one error in 14 innings of play, and both of ECCC's starting pitchers made it to at least the fifth inning.

Andre Coleman picked up the win in the first game, allowing no runs off three hits with five strikeouts in six innings. Game 2 winner John Fonteberry, who wore a hockey goalie-style mask to protect the right side of his face that was damaged by a line drive last year and cost him his right eye, pitched five innings in the second game, giving up two runs on three hits with three strikeouts.

While ECCC put up big run totals, 15 combined runs in the two games, the Warriors didn't set any new hit records.

In the first game, ECCC loaded the bases twice — in the first and fifth innings — but the six runs produced from those situations came off of two JCJC errors, a wild pitch, a hit batter, a fielder's choice and a sacrifice grounder.

In the second game, ECCC's first two runs came off of a wild pitch and a sacrifice grounder, as the Warriors took a 2-0 lead after two innings.

"We put (the ball) in play," Wilson said. "Baseball is a crazy game, and when you put the ball in play anything can happen."

ECCC started producing runs with its bats midway through the second game, as Chris Pierce drove in a run with a single and Corey Coward brought home another run with a double in the fourth inning for a 4-0 lead.

JCJC's offense, which only recorded seven hits in the doubleheader, also started working in the second game.

Bobcats shortstop Fernando Goldmon produced his team's first runs with a two-run homer in the fifth to cut the Warriors' lead in half, but ECCC tallied two runs in the bottom of the inning off an RBI triple from Joseph Cavenaugh and a wild pitch for a 6-4 lead.

The Bobcats pulled to within one run of the lead, scoring three runs off one hit and an error in the top of the sixth. But ECCC picked up another run off a wild pitch in the bottom of the sixth, and JCJC couldn't pick up any more runs in the top of the seventh.

"We had scoring opportunities, but we couldn't get the clutch hits until Fernando hit the home run," Glaze said. "Maybe we got into a little bit of a groove, and maybe, it will carry over into the next game for us."

ECCC continues the season at home on Tuesday with a doubleheader against Mississippi Delta at 1 p.m., and JCJC hosts Holmes on Monday at 2 p.m. in its home opener.

LAKE MESSENGER _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
UNION APPEAL _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
NEWTON RECORD _____
MERIDIAN STAR ✓
CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Feb 14

ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

An East Central Community College baseball player dives into first base against Copiah-Lincoln Community College in the season opener for both teams. East Central swept the doubleheader and stands at 4-0 before Tuesday's doubleheader with Mississippi Delta Community College. **See story, Page 1B.**

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

IMPACT

CARTHAGINIAN

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT

NEWTON RECORD

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

Feb 14

Warriors off to 4-0 start as coach serves 12-game suspension

By Robbie Robertson
The Newton Record

The East Central Community College baseball team is off to a hot 4-0 start and is doing so without the on-the-field duties of head coach Jake Yarborough.

Yarborough has been suspended for the first 12 games of the season for a violation of Mississippi Association of Community and Junior College rules concerning requests for medical redshirts for three players.

Yarborough

"It was a paperwork mistake," ECCC Athletics Director Terry Underwood said. "We were supposed to send the requests to the state office and didn't."

Underwood said the request for medical hardship had been sent to the national office and the three players – John Fortenberry, Van Wilson and Drew Kenna – had been cleared for redshirts by the national office. But the documentation for the three players was not sent to the state office, causing an infraction and making the players ineligible for a medical hardship and third season.

But after reviewing the case, the MACJC granted medical hardships from the state and allowed to play a third season in baseball.

The letter from the MACJC stated the following:

See **BASEBALL**, Page 3B

ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central Community College's Van Wilson (33) celebrates with teammates after hitting a home run in the season opener against Co-Lin last Thursday. After four games, Wilson has hit three home runs.

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Baseball

From Page 1B

"Due to Coach Yarborough's failure to submit the proper documentation within the proper time frame, Coach Yarborough will be suspended from the first 25 percent of the 2005 season's baseball games, which are scheduled and actually played. Coach Yarborough will not be allowed to travel or attend baseball games during this suspension. Failure to adhere to these regulations could bring other action against the East Central baseball program."

Underwood wouldn't say if he thought the suspension was harsh but said any appeal could have put the eligibility of the three players at jeopardy.

"We could have appealed but we weren't going to take any chances at hurting those kids' eligibility," Underwood said. "It was an honest mistake and we're going to learn from it and move on."

The Warriors, off to a 4-0 start, hosted Mississippi Delta Tuesday for their fifth and sixth games of the season. If no games are rained out, Yarborough's first game would be a Feb. 24 doubleheader at Decatur against Coahoma.

"We're lucky that we only have two of our first four double-headers away from home," Underwood said. "The assistants have done a great job so far. Even Coach (Scott) Hill, our softball coach, has pitched in and helped."

Part of East Central's good start can be attributed to Wilson, who has three home runs through the first three games. He hit a two-run home run in the first game against Jones and hit one in each contest against Co-Lin to start the season.

Another positive note is Fortenberry, who picked up the win in game two against Jones, going five innings, giving up two runs on three hits with three strikeouts.

WEEK OF Feb 14

CARTHAGINIAN ✓
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT
NEWTON RECORD
MERIDIAN STAR
CLARION-LEDGER

"Who would have ever thought it?"

Fortenberry gets start, win at ECCC

❑ *After losing his eye, enduring numerous surgeries, pitcher returns*

If John Fortenberry possesses anything as strong as his right arm, it is without a doubt his determination.

Last Saturday in Decatur Fortenberry made his regular-season pitching debut for the East Central Community College Warriors, just over one year after being struck in the face with a batted ball and losing his right eye as a result.

When Fortenberry toed the pitching rubber on Saturday in the second game of a double-header with Jones Community College, decked out in a caged helmet welded by his father, Roddie, his performance most likely put to rest any doubts anyone had about his ability to pitch with just one eye.

Over five innings, Fortenberry allowed only three hits (one of which was a two-run homerun), while striking out five.

After Fortenberry exited the game with a 6-2 lead, his former CHS teammate Kevin Hatch took the mound and earned the save in Fortenberry's first collegiate victory as a pitcher.

While Fortenberry acknowledged that many people questioned his ability to return to the mound, he said he has refused to allow himself to think any differently despite undergoing six surgeries that included placing a titanium plate and 12 screws in the cheek bone around his crushed eye socket.

"It was just another day," Fortenberry said. "You can't really take it any way other than that."

➤ See FORTENBERRY on 11A

FORTENBERRY

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Shortly, after he suffered the life and career-threatening injury last January in an intra-squad game Fortenberry vowed to return to baseball and has never admitted to having any doubts that he would.

But, even though he never doubted he would pitch again, Fortenberry said he didn't expect things to go as well as they did on Saturday.

"Truthfully," he said, "I am very surprised I did as well as I did, but after the first two or three pitches it all kind of fell into place."

> "After the first two or three pitches it all kind of fell into place."
>
> --*John Fortenberry*

Up until about two weeks before the season, ECCC coach Jake Yarborough had told Fortenberry he would be used as a relief pitcher this season, at least in the beginning.

But, about two weeks ago, Fortenberry said Yarborough told him he was going to be in the starting rotation.

"That made me feel good," Fortenberry said. "It was about the third or fourth inning before I realized how lucky I was to be pitching again."

Fortenberry's mother, Dawn, hid her emotions well, hoping not to put any more pressure on her son than she figured he was already feeling.

""John has just been going with the flow," she said. "We were really, really proud of him.

"He's a starting pitcher now. Who would have ever thought it? I think he did better than most people thought he would."

Major League Baseball scout and Walnut Grove resident Art Gardner, who was in attendance on Saturday, for one, thought Fortenberry's return was unlikely.

Gardner said he called the MLB office and asked if anyone had ever returned to pitch after losing an eye and a subsequent search of the records produced no similar occurrences where sight was involved.

Fortenberry said he will have another operation at the end of the season and then he will have a new prosthetic eye made. He currently does not have a prosthetic and he wears a patch at all times.

Additional surgery became a necessity last summer after he was outfitted with his first prosthetic and the upcoming operation will ready him for another, hopefully, permanent one, Fortenberry said.

Fortenberry is scheduled to pitch for his second win on the season today (Thursday) when the Warriors travel to Gulf Coast Community College.

WEEK OF Feb 21

ECCC Diamond Warriors

ECCC PHOTO

Members of the 2005 Diamond Warrior baseball team at East Central Community College include (front row, from left) Andre Coleman, Brandon Ezell, Jon Maxie, Sam Thames, shortstop James Harris, Morton; Dillon McInnis, catcher Ken Gordon, Morton; Travis Butler, Chris Pierce, Kevin Gregory. (second row, from left) Josh Miller, first baseman Wes Cox, Forest; David Frey, Taylor Petty, Kevin Hatch, Jon Cole, Joseph Cavenuagh, catcher Josh Hawkins, Forest; Corey Coward, Cody Savell, Josh Yeager. (back row, from left) Bud Loper, Lucas Poole, Will Pearson, Marcus Davis, Justin Mullinax, Keith Edwards, outfielder John Harris, Morton; John Fortenberry, Ross Pine and Van Wilson. Jake Yarborough serves as head coach. Dusty Hillman is assistant coach.

Future Looks Brighter For Diamond Warriors

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—After struggling through last's year 12-29 campaign, which was hampered by injuries to several key players, the outlook seems much brighter this season for the East Central Community College baseball team.

The Diamond Warriors, who began 2005 action by hosting Copiah-Lincoln Community College, are healthy and were ready to get the season underway, said fourth-year head coach Jake Yarborough.

Although Yarborough was hesitant to predict wins and losses, he is confident that this year's squad has what it takes to be successful.

"This is the best defensive team that we have had in a while. We are very solid on the infield and we've got good speed in the outfield. Our pitchers are especially excited about our defense. We also have good team speed, and I expect us to be successful running the bases," Yarborough said.

Scott County native players on the roster include James Harris, shortstop; Ken Gordon, catcher; and John Harris, outfielder, all of Morton. The roster also includes Josh Hawkins, catcher, and Wes Cox, first base, both of Forest.

Among players who experienced a season-ending injury was freshman pitcher John Fortenberry, who many thought had suffered a career-ending injury. Fortenberry lost an eye after being struck by a hard-liner during a preseason scrimmage. Despite the handicap, Fortenberry said he is optimistic about returning to the mound.

"I always dreamed of playing college baseball, and I still want to see if I can make it work. I guess I also like to prove people wrong. So many have told me that I would not play again," Fortenberry said.

Yarborough said Fortenberry is adjusting well to his return to the team.

"John is doing fine. He's healthy and happy to be back. I expect him to have a big impact on the team this year. I also expect him to have a good season on the mound," Yarborough said.

Yarborough said top returnees on the pitching staff include Josh Miller, Cody Savell and Kevin Hatch, each of whom had impressive stats during fall competition.

Miller put up the most impressive numbers last fall by fanning 28 batters in 22 innings of work. He allowed 15 hits.

Savell, a right-hander, also had a successful fall campaign as he struck out 17 batters over 18 innings and also gave up 15 hits.

Hatch, a right-hander, posted 12 strike outs in 18 innings of work and allowed 13 hits. Yarborough said Hatch, a side-arm hurler, will be the top reliever this spring.

ECCC PHOTO

Scott County members of the 2005 Diamond Warrior baseball team at East Central Community College in Decatur and their respective high schools include (seated, from left) outfielder John Harris and shortstop James Harris, both of Morton; and (standing, from left) catcher Josh Hawkins and first baseman Wes Cox, both of Forest; and catcher Ken Gordon, Morton. Jake Yarborough serves as head coach. Dusty Hillman is assistant coach.

Another top returnee on the mound is Andre Coleman.

Yarborough said top sluggers during fall competition were Corey Coward, Van Wilson, Taylor Petty and Marcus Davis.

Coward, a catcher/first baseman, batted .422 with one home run and seven doubles last fall. He completed the 2004 season with a .423 average and had two home runs, four doubles and 13 RBIs.

Wilson, an outfielder, posted a .360 average and slugged two home runs and five doubles during fall competition. Petty, a catcher/outfielder, also batted .360, and Davis, an outfielder/pitcher, had a .306 average with two home runs. Davis batted .289 in 2004 and had five home runs, two triples, four doubles and 27 RBIs.

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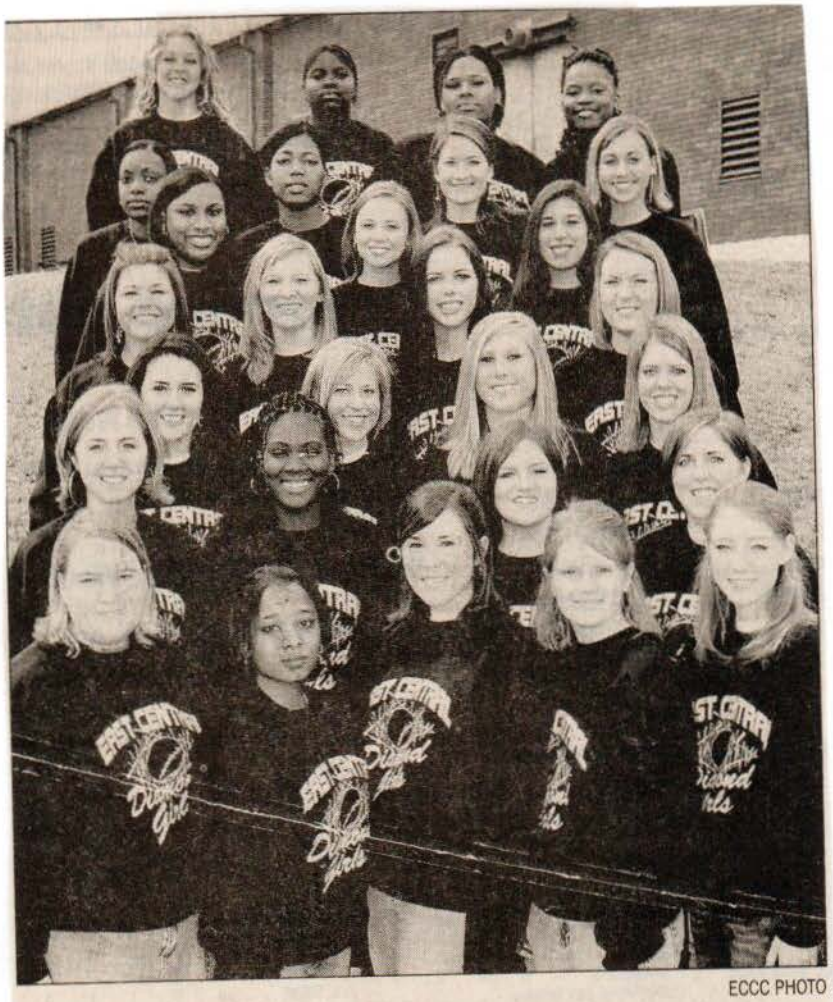
WEEK OF Feb 21



ECCC PHOTO

ECCC DIAMOND GIRLS

Members of the East Central Community College Diamond Girls for the 2005 season include (front row, from left) Tasha Boswell, Kenya Boyd, Morton; Amy Kennedy, Forest; Ronda Stroud, Shana Smith. (second row, from left) Daphanie Hatcher, Shay Moncrief, Anna Price, Lee Anne Rawson. (third row, from left) Lindsey Clark, Kristi Keene, Mary Catherine Hunt, Meagan Mills. (fourth row, from left) Kelli Evans, Tracy McMahan, Megan Slay, Forest; Amanda McMillan. (fifth row, from left) Sherrell Brown, Forest; Aly Burton, Jessica Fairchild, Forest. (sixth row, from left) Ashley Nichols, Morton; Keeley Morgan, Walnut Grove; Hali Rainer, Jennifer Key. (back row, from left) Jess Davis, Jennifer Moore, Angela Momon, Carmelita Naylor.

APPEARED

LAKE MESSENGER ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

IMPACT

CARTHAGINIAN

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF Feb 21

Batter Up! with East Central Community College Diamond Warrior Baseball

Newton County members of the 2005 Diamond Warrior baseball team at East Central Community College in Decatur and their respective high schools include (seated, from left) second baseman/third baseman Brandon Ezell and outfielder Joseph Cavenaugh, both of Newton County High School; and second baseman Sam Thames, Newton County Academy; and (standing, from left) pitcher Lucas Poole, Newton; first baseman/outfielder Will Pearson, Newton County; pitcher Cody Savell, Newton; and shortstop/pitcher Bud Loper, Newton County.

Remaining 2005 Diamond Warrior Baseball Games:

February				
24	Thursday	Coahoma	Decatur	1:30 P.M.
26	Saturday	MS Delta	Moorhead	1:00 P.M.
28	Monday	Jones	Ellisville	2:00 P.M.
March				
1	Tuesday	Pearl River	Decatur	1:00 P.M.
5	Saturday	Southwest	Decatur	1:00 P.M.
8	Tuesday	Coahoma	Clarksdale	1:30 P.M.
11	Friday	Itawamba	Fulton	2:30 P.M.
17	Thursday	Northeast	Booneville	1:00 P.M.
19	Saturday	Southwest	Summit	1:00 P.M.
22	Tuesday	Co-Lin	Wesson	1:00 P.M.
25	Friday	*Holmes	Decatur	1:00 P.M.
30	Wednesday	*East MS	Decatur	1:00 P.M.
April				
2	Saturday	*Meridian	Meridian	1:00 P.M.
5	Tuesday	*Hinds	Raymond	2:00 P.M.
11	Monday	Southwest TN	Delta State Uni.	2:00 P.M.
13	Wednesday	*Holmes	Goodman	3:00 P.M.
16	Saturday	*East MS	Scooba	2:00 P.M.
19	Tuesday	*Meridian	Decatur	1:00 P.M.
23	Saturday	*Hinds	Decatur	1:00 P.M.

All Games Are Double-Headers Unless Noted As Single.
* Denotes Division Games

East Central Community College

P.O. Box 129 • Decatur, MS 39327 • 1-877-GO-2-ECCC • www.eccc.edu

ACCREDITATION
East Central Community College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; Telephone Number 404-679-4501), to award the Associate Degree.

NON-DISCRIMINATION
East Central Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age or handicap. The College is in compliance with Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Right to Know Campus Security Act of 1990.

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WEEK OF March 21

Lions, Warriors split a pair in division play

By Marty Stamper
staff writer

DECATUR — East Central Community College and East Mississippi Community College split an MACJC Central Division doubleheader Wednesday afternoon at Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium with the Warriors taking a 2-1 win in the opener and the Lions roaring to a 14-4 victory in the second game.

The Warriors are 16-14 overall and 1-3 in the division, while the Lions are 14-18 and 2-4.

In the opener, ECCC's Josh Miller and EMCC's Robert Tucker hooked up in a dandy pitcher's duel before the Warriors pushed across the winning run in the bottom of the seventh inning.

Van Wilson and Corey Coward opened the inning with singles to right field. After a sacrifice bunt by James Harris, Wilson came home when EMCC center fielder Brandon Mabry was unable to come up with Joseph Cavenaugh's bloop single in shallow center field despite a diving effort.

Miller (6-1) tossed a four-hitter, striking out 10 and walking two for the Warriors.

"Miller did a real good job," ECCC head coach Jake Yarborough said. "I was real proud of him. He pitched his heart out.

"Their pitcher did a good job too. Tucker is a good pitcher.

"It was a great battle between those two. We didn't play the best defense, but we played pretty good behind Miller. I was real pleased with the way our guys responded toward the end of the game."

Tucker (3-4) gave up eight hits,

See Split
Page C4

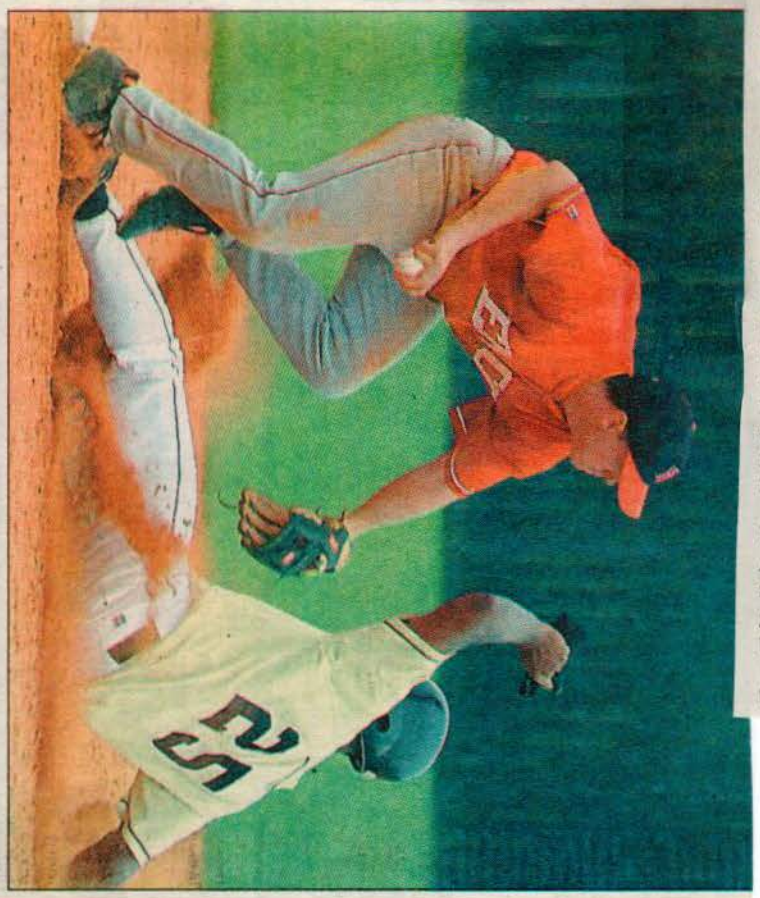

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

FORCED OUT

East Central Community College's Marcus Davis is forced out at second as East Mississippi Community College's Richmond Alexander gets ready to turn a double play.

From Page B1

three of which came in the seventh inning. He struck out five and walked one. He faced only batter over the minimum through four innings.

Wilson and Coward both went 2-for-3 for the Warriors.

EMCC had four hits — all singles.

"Four hits won't win that many games," EMCC head coach Bill Baldner said. "And I think I made a mistake coaching. I should have had a different bunt defense on (in the seventh inning) and I didn't call it. I take some credit for that loss because our guys played their hearts out. We just didn't get any hits."

EMCC turned a pair of double plays.

The Lions went up 1-0 in the top of the fourth as Mabry walked with two outs, stole second, and scored on a single by Joe Nickels.

ECCC tied the game in the fifth as Wilson led off with a double to the wall in left field and scored on Coward's line drive single over shortstop.

In the second game, the Lions were leading 3-0 and had the bases loaded with two outs in the top of the fifth. Cavenaugh dropped an inning-ending throw at second base from shortstop Chris Pierce and EMCC picked up eight runs before the third out was finally recorded.

In the big inning, Lance Burnham had a two-run single, Adam Neal had an RBI single, and Tyler Maxwell launched a grand slam to left field to put the Lions up 11-0.

"You can't give an average team, and that's what we are right now, one extra ou because anything can happer and we proved that by swinging the bat and getting some big hits with two outs," Baldner said. "I felt bad for them because I know coach Yarborough works on that, but I felt good that we could capitalize on it."

ECCC kept the game going for another inning by scoring four runs in the bottom of the fifth. Ken Gordon had a two-run single, Pierce drew a bases-loaded walk, and Marcus Davis had a sacrifice fly.

Burnham, Neal, and Richmond Alexander all had RBI singles for EMCC in the top of the sixth. Neal finished 3-for-4, while Burnham was 2-for-4 with three RBIs.

Jonathan Russell (5-2) got the win, allowing six hits and striking out six.

Wilson went 2-for-2 for ECCC.

"We had our opportunities to do some things that second game and we just didn't do it," Yarborough said. "There were some routine plays that should have been made. We could have hit the ball better in some situations. Pitching, we hit too many and walked too many. When you do that, you leave yourself in a bad situation.

"Russell did a good job on the mound and they played pretty good baseball, so give them a lot of credit. They hit the ball pretty good. We just didn't execute that second game."

Warrior starter John Fortenberry (3-4) took the loss, giving up only two hits, but walking three and hitting four batters in 4⅔ innings. He struck out three.

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THE MERIDIAN STAR

LOCAL & PREP

Saturday, March 26, 2005

Holmes takes two from Warriors

By Marty Stamper / staff writer

Friday, March 25, 2005 11:35 PM CST

DECATUR - The Holmes Community College Bulldogs took over first place in the MACJC Central Division baseball standings with a 3-2, 9-6 sweep of East Central Community College Friday afternoon at Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium.

Holmes improved to 4-0 in the division and 22-11 overall, while ECCC fell to 0-2 and 15-13.

The Warriors had their chances in both games, but were unable to capitalize.

In the opener, ECCC's Josh Miller and Holmes' Brent Telano both turned in solid performances on the mound. Miller (5-1) tossed a five-hitter with no walks and four strikeouts. Telano (2-2) gave up five hits and one walk while striking out seven.

Ironically, both ran into the little trouble they faced in the same inning. Holmes got four of its five hits in the top of the fifth to take a 3-0 lead. Jared Elmore had a two-out, two-run triple to right-center field and scored on a single by Mario Thomas.

The Warriors managed three of their five hits in the bottom of the fifth with Van Wilson getting a leadoff single and scoring on a two-run homer to left field by David Frey.

Holmes' Tolliver McMullen was the game's only batter with more than one hit as he had a pair of singles.

In the second game, the Warriors scored twice in the bottom of the second inning and once in both the third and fourth frames to take a 4-2 lead.

A defensive collapse by the Warriors, along with some solid Bulldog hits, enabled Holmes to rack up seven runs in the top of the fifth. ECCC committed three errors in the rally with the Bulldogs also getting three doubles. Telano, Marcus Spann and Thomas each had

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a two-bagger in the frame.

"We just didn't get the hits when we needed them in the first game," said ECCC head coach Jake Yarborough. "We played good defense. Their pitcher did a good job and kept us down. We couldn't ever get anything going against him. You've got to hit the ball to score runs. Especially if they are throwing strikes, you've got to put it in play.

"In the second game, they had some hits, but we made errors and should have been out of the (fifth) inning. When you make that many errors, you give those guys extra at-bats, it makes our pitchers pitch more pitches, and it puts them on base and eventually they're going to score. You can't do that to your pitcher. You've got to make plays behind him and give him some support. We definitely shot ourselves in the foot."

Wilson had two doubles and a single for ECCC in the second game. Marcus Davis had three singles. Ross Pine added a pair of doubles.

Holmes got two doubles from Spann and a pair of singles from Matt Buchanan.

Cody Savell (3-3) took the loss, and Kolby Green recorded the win with relief from Caleb Cain.

ECCC returns to action on Wednesday when East Mississippi Community College comes to Decatur for a 1 p.m. division doubleheader.

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WEEK OF March 28

East Central drops pair of division games to Holmes

by Marty Stamper

The Holmes Community College Bulldogs took over first place in the MACJC Central Division baseball standings with a 3-2, 9-6 sweep of East Central Community College Friday afternoon at Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium in Decatur.

Holmes improved to 4-0 in the division and 22-11 overall, while EC fell to 0-2 and 15-13.

The Warriors had their chances in both games, but were unable to capitalize.

In the opener, EC's Josh Miller and Holmes' Brent Telano both turned in solid performances on the mound. Miller (5-1) tossed a five-hitter with no walks and four strikeouts. Telano (2-2) gave up five hits and one walk while striking out seven.

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Jake Yarborough

"We just didn't get the hits when we needed them in the first game," EC head coach Jake Yarborough said. "We played good defense. Their pitcher did a good job and kept us down. We couldn't ever get anything going against him. You've got to hit the ball to score runs. Especially if they are throwing strikes, you've got to put it in play.

"In the second game, they had some hits, but we made errors and should have been out of the (fifth) inning. When you make that many errors, you give those guys extra at-bats, it makes our pitchers pitch more pitches, and it puts them on base and eventually they're going to score. You can't do that to your pitcher. You've got to make plays behind him and give him some support. We definitely shot ourselves in the foot."

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Holmes got two doubles from Spann and a pair of singles from Matt Buchanan.

Cody Savell (3-3) took the loss with Kolby Green getting the win with relief from Caleb Cain.

EC returns to action today when East Mississippi comes to Decatur for a 1 p.m. division doubleheader. The Lions are 1-3 in the division and 13-17 overall.

APP

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WEEK OF March 28

Davis Leads ECCC Sluggers; Miller Top Hurler

DECATUR--Sophomores Marcus Davis of Magee and Josh Miller of ElysianFields, Texas, are East Central Community College's top slugger and hurler, respectively, following 26 games of the 2005 campaign.

Davis has posted a .329 batting average, which includes six home runs, a triple, two doubles and 19 RBIs. Miller, a southpaw, has a 5-0 mark with a 2.43 ERA. He has fanned 38 batters and walked 20.

In addition to Davis, other ECCC players having success at the plate and their respective averages include pitcher/first baseman Ross Pine, a product of Live Oak (La.) High School, .308 (one homer; six RBIs); catcher/first baseman Corey Coward of Noxapater, .253 (one homer; 12 RBIs); outfielder Joseph Cavenaugh of Newton County, .250 (10 RBIs); catcher/outfielder Taylor Petty of Neshoba Central, .245; first baseman/outfielder Will Pearson of Newton County, .245; shortstop James Harris of Morton, .237 (16 RBIs); and outfielder Van Wilson of West Lauderdale, .232 (three homers; 11 RBIs).

Other top hurlers are right-hander Kevin Hatch of Carthage, who has a 3-1 mark with a .42 ERA; right-hander Cody Savell of Newton, 3-2 with a 1.87 ERA; and right-hander Keith Edwards of Louisville, 2-0 with a 4.24 ERA.

The Diamond Warriors are 15-13 overall and 0-2 in division competition prior to Wednesday's home doubleheader with East Mississippi Community College, which gets underway at 1 p.m. at Jamie Clark Memorial Field on the Decatur campus.

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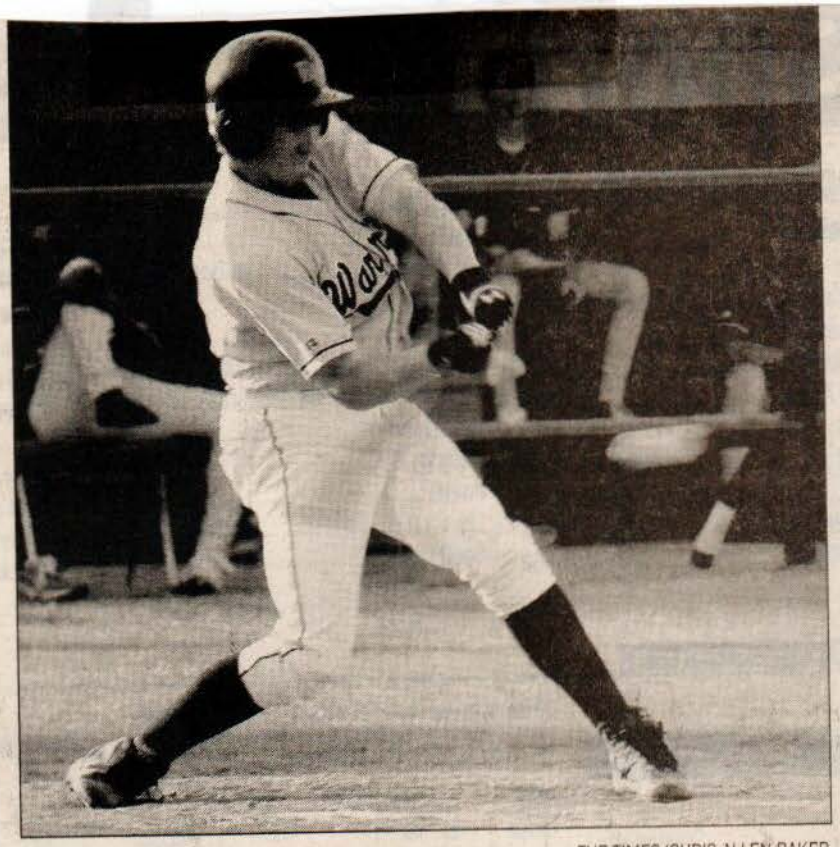
WEEK OF March 28



THE TIMES/CHRIS ALLEN BAKER

RIPPING FOR A HIT

Former Morton Panther James Harris takes a cut at a pitch for the East Central Community College's Warrior baseball Friday in a doubleheader against Holmes. Harris and the Warriors dropped both games.

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THE TIMES/CHRIS ALLEN BAKER

GETTING THE SIGNALS

Former Morton Panther Ken Gordon waits for the signal from the East Central Community College's Warrior baseball coaches for a signal for the next pitch Friday in a doubleheader against Holmes. Gordon and the Warriors dropped both games.

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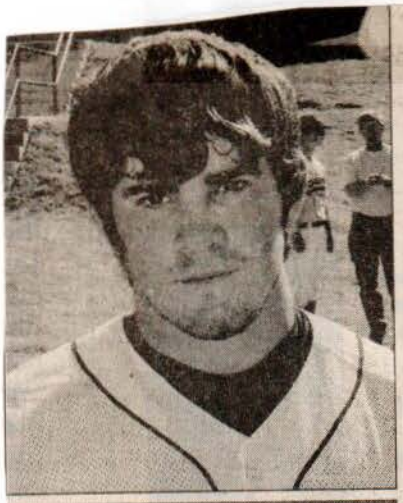

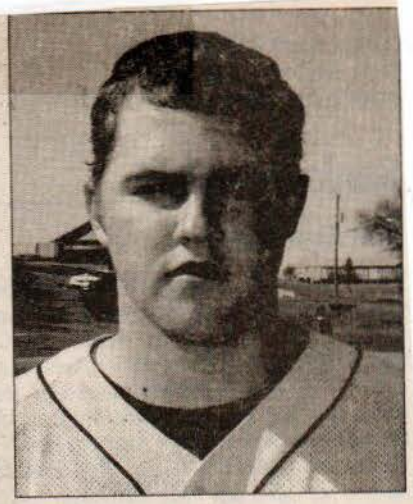

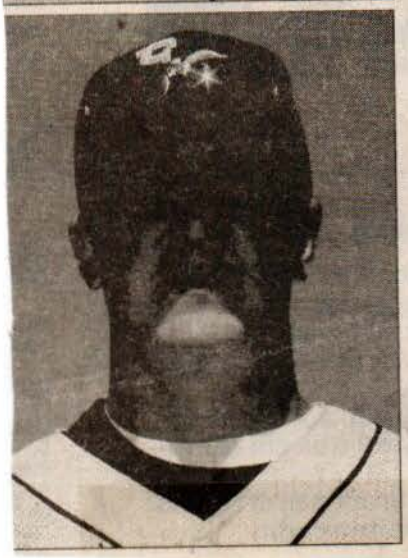

THE TIMES/CHRIS ALLEN BAKER

SC DIAMOND WARRIORS

Several Scott County baseball players are on the roster for the East Central Community College's Warrior baseball program. They include, left, former Forest Bearcat Wes Cox and above: former Bearcat Josh Hawkins. James Harris, above left, is a former Morton Panther. His twin brother, John quallfied for a medical redshirt and is not playing.

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WEEK OF March 28

Eagles out slug Warriors

By Tony Krausz
sports editor

Meridian Community College showed no signs of panic in the second game of a Central Division doubleheader against East Central Community College on Saturday at Scaggs Field.

Despite falling behind 4-0 after the first half inning and the Eagles' pitcher showing control problems, MCC just went to work at the plate.

The Eagles evened the game at four in the bottom of the first inning en route to a 14-4, six-inning win in the second part of the double dip. MCC (26-4) won the first game 11-0 in five innings over ECCC (16-17).

"They shoved it right in our face in the second game, 4-0 is a tough mountain to climb," said Eagles shortstop Michael Murray. "Putting four runs back up there clogged them down a little bit, and it gave us the confidence to go right in."

Murray started MCC's early-game rally leading off the bottom of the first with a single and scoring the Eagles' first run of game two off a balk by ECCC pitcher Cody Savell.

MCC third baseman Brian Frichter followed the balk with a two-run home run over the right-field wall to bring the Warriors' lead down to one, and catcher Tommy Lott tied the game with an RBI single.

"It helped a lot," Frichter said of the home run. "(Center fielder Toddrick Johnson) said we needed to scratch two runs. Mike (Murray) came up with the first hit, Todd got the next hit, Joey (Lieberman) moved them over, and I got a slider away and just hit it out."

The Eagles took the lead for good in the second inning of game two, getting back-to-back RBI singles from Frichter and Dillon Sudduth for a 6-4 lead.

Murray, who terrorized ECCC at the plate throughout the second game going 5-for-5, boosted MCC's advantage to 7-4 with a solo homer in the third. The shortstop finished the second game with four singles and the homer, after hitting on single in the first game.

"The kid is phenomenal," said MCC head coach Chad Calet of Murray. "It is going to be a sad day when I have to let him go. He is every thing you want to coach."

The Eagles put the finishing touch on their run-rule win in the second game in the bottom of the sixth, scoring seven runs off five hits and a balk.

Lieberman got things rolling in the game-ending inning with a three-run homer over the left-field wall into a stiff wind that was blowing out to right field for a 10-4 lead.

Frichter, who followed the homer with a double, scored on a balk, and Trey Jones upped MCC's lead to 12-4 by drawing a bases-loaded walk that scored Sudduth.

Murray ended the game with his fourth single of the contest, this one a two-run shot to left field for the 10-run victory.

"That's just luck," Murray said of his performance at the plate. "I put some good swings on it and found holes. That is the name of the game. It just happened to be my day today."

Frichter went 3-for-4 with a single, double and homer in the second game, and Johnson, Sudduth and Lott each had two singles. ECCC's Ken Gordon hit two doubles in the loss.

See Eagles

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

IN BEFORE THE TAG

Meridian Community College's Josh McBride beats the tag of East Central Community College's Chris Pierce with a steal of second.

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MCC pitcher David Clark struggled through the first two innings of the second game to pick up the win and improve to 6-1 for the season.

The right-handed freshman allowed four runs off five hits, hit one batter and committed an error at the start of the game. Clark settled down late in the third inning — striking out the last three batters he faced in the third — and finished the day giving up five hits, striking out four and walking one in five innings.

MCC's Dusty Davis had no such troubles on the mound in the game-one victory. The left-handed sophomore gave up just one hit and struck out five in five innings to improve to 6-0 for the year.

"(Clark) made some adjustments, but he is still not where we want him to be. In my opinion, he is too good to be that inconsistent," Caillet said. "(Davis) threw it well. He gave us a chance to win. He filled up the strike zone and got some ground balls that we needed."

The Eagles took a 3-0 lead in the first inning of the opening game, and they put the game away in the fourth, scoring eight runs to invoke the 10-run rule.

Tommy Lott led MCC's offense in the first game with a single and three-run home run, and Frichter recorded a double. The Eagles had seven hits in the win.

"Everybody is just seeing the ball real well right now, and we are all just hitting it on the nose," Frichter said.

MCC continues the season with another Central Division doubleheader on Tuesday, as the Eagles host Holmes. The first game is set to start at 2 p.m.

WEEK OF April 11

Silent Warriors ground Eagles

By Tony Krausz
sports editor

DECATUR — Jake Yarborough didn't say a word.

East Central Community College's head baseball coach refrained from delivering a between-game speech to his team following a tough 4-3 loss to Meridian Community College in the opening game of a Central Division doubleheader on Tuesday.

The silent treatment worked, as the Warriors scorched the Eagles for 11 runs in the first inning of the nightcap en route to a 16-3 victory to earn a split at Chris Gay IV Memorial Field.

"We didn't talk. Nobody said a word." Yarborough said of the time between games one and two. "Our guys knew what the had to do. I didn't need to give a speech. They knew what to do, and that was basically it."

The split put ECCC's overall record at 23-21, and the Warriors are 4-10 in Central Division play. The game-two win kept ECCC on pace in the playoff hunt, as the Warriors' entered Tuesday a game behind East Mississippi Community College.

If EMCC swept Holmes Community College on Tuesday, ECCC will need to win its final two games of the season on Saturday against Hinds Community College to tie EMCC for the final playoff spot. If EMCC split with Holmes, ECCC can clinch a post-season berth with a sweep of Hinds or a share of the final spot with a split on Saturday.

> *We had a chance to wrap up conference on our own, and we didn't rise to the occasion.*
>
> MCC head coach
> Chad Caillet

"Every game we play now is very important," Yarborough said. "I'm just proud of the way our guys jumped on them early and did a good job of swinging the sticks."

MCC, which would have clinched the Central Division title with two wins over ECCC, couldn't stop the charging Warriors from the start in the second game of the doubleheader.

ECCC swung through three MCC pitchers, as the Warriors slapped the Eagles around for 11 runs on five hits. MCC also committed two errors in the double-digit run first inning.

The Warriors sent 15 batters to the plate in the opening inning. ECCC's Chris Pierce and Taylor Petty each hit two-run singles, and Van Wilson hit an RBI double.

The Warriors also scored one run on a fielder's choice and two runs off two seperate Eagles' errors.

ECCC's Corey Coward capped the first-inning scoring with a three-run home run over the left-field wall.

"It's very, very, very disappointing," said Eagles head coach Chad Caillet, whose team is 33-7 overall and 13-1 in the Central and finish the season with a doubleheader against

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PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

SAFE AT HOME

ntral Community College's James Harris scores a run for the Warriors as Meridian nity College's Tommy Lott loses the handle on the ball.

s on Saturday. "We had a chance to p conference on our own, and we didn't the occasion. I never thought we could his poor."

CC increased its lead to 13-0 in the nd inning off an RBI triple from Wilson an RBI single from Petty.

rey Jones drove in a run for MCC in the th inning with a sacrifice ground out, but ECC answered with three more runs off a three-run homer by Petty in the fourth inning for a 16-1 lead. MCC's Michael Murray closed the scoring with a two-run single in the top of the fifth in the run-ruled game.

Josh Miller recorded the win for ECCC, allowing one run on one hit with four strikeouts in four innings. Petty went 4-for-4 with six RBIs, and Wilson finished with a double, triple and two RBIs.

Michael Robbins took the loss, lasting only a third of an inning. He gave up eight runs, one earned, off four hits and four walks.

See **MCC**
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MCC	**4**
ECCC	**3**

The Eagles' game-one win didn't look much better than their game-two loss.

MCC came back from deficits of 1 and 2 runs to tie the game at 3, and the Eagles scored the winning run in the fifth inning on a wild pitch.

"We did not come out playing sharp at all, and we actually stole one away from (ECCC)," said Caillet, whose team produced just eight hits in the doubleheader.

ECCC took a 1-0 lead in the second inning off a MCC error that allowed Ross Pine to score, but the Eagles tied the game at 1 in the top of the third inning, scoring on a Warriors' error.

ECCC took a 3-1 lead in the bottom of the third, scoring on a wild pitch and a sacrifice bunt from James Harris.

The Eagles tied the game again in the top of the fourth inning, scoring on a wild pitch and a single by Joey Lieberman.

"You can't make a lot of mistakes against (MCC)," Yarborough said. "We walked some guys, had some passed balls and wild pitches. They took advantage of that."

Dusty Davis took the win, giving up no runs on one hit with three strikeouts in four innings of relief. Lieberman went 3-for-4.

Cody Savell took the loss, allowing one run on two hits with three strikeouts in 3⅓ innings of relief. Marcus Davis and Will Pearson each had two hits.

WEEK OF April 25

ECCC Diamond Warriors Sweep Hinds; Qualify for Region Tournament

DECATUR--Powered by Marcus Davis' three home runs and Sam Thames' game-winning single, East Central Community College swept a doubleheader from Hinds Community College Saturday afternoon thus qualifying for the Region 23 Tournament scheduled May 5-8 at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Perkinston.

The Diamond Warriors, who improved to 25-21 overall and 6-10 in division competition under fourth-year head coach Jake Yarborough, cruised to a 9-2 victory in the first game and rallied for three runs in the bottom of the seventh to take an 8-7 victory in the nightcap. East Central and Northeast were tied for the final spot in the Region Tournament but the Tigers were eliminated following a weekend split with rival Northwest.

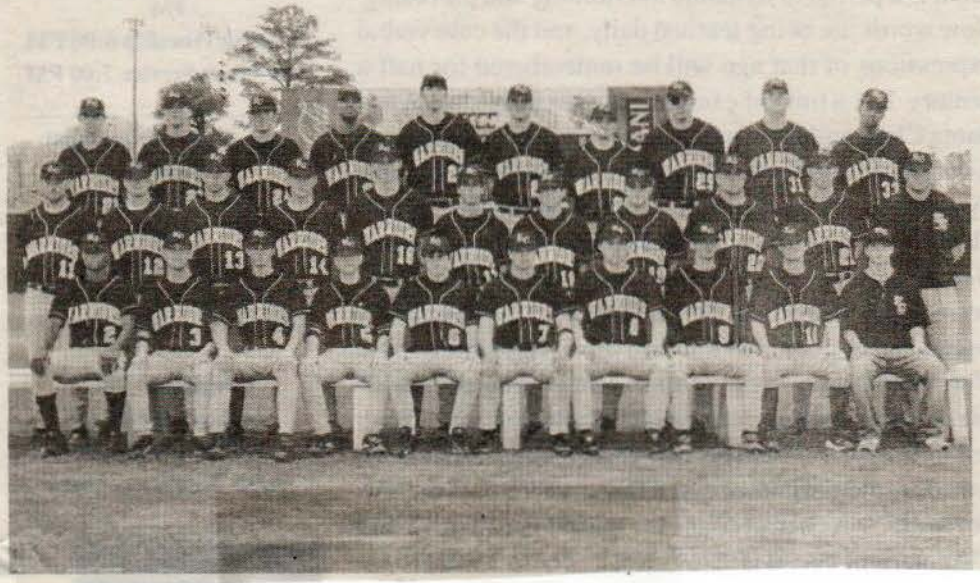
Davis, a sophomore outfielder/pitcher from Magee, gave EC a 1-0 lead in the first inning of game one and later added a two-run blast for the easy win. Designated hitter Ross Pine, a product of Live Oak High School in Watson, La., also homered for East Central as he sent a towering shot over the right field lights. Pine was also credited with a single. Other EC sluggers were Corey Coward of Noxapater, two singles; and James Harris of Morton and Will Pearson and Joseph Cavenaugh, both of Newton County, singles each.

Southpaw Josh Miller of Elysian Fields, Texas, picked up the win for East Central, improving to 9-2. Miller fanned four and allowed eight hits in six innings of work. Right-hander Kevin Hatch of Carthage worked the seventh inning and allowed two hits and fanned one.

Thames' heroics occurred with one out, the bases loaded and the game tied at 7-7. Thames, a product of Newton County Academy, also singled earlier in the contest.

Other sluggers in the one-run victory were Davis, home run and two singles; Van Wilson of West Lauderdale, double and single; Coward and Harris, two singles each; Ken Gordon of Morton, double; and Pearson, single.

Right-hander Cody Savell of Newton was credited with the win, improving his record to 4-6. Savell was on the mound for three innings, allowing four runs on seven hits. Right-hander John Fortenberry of Carthage started on the mound for the Warriors and was relieved after four innings of work. Fortenberry fanned one, walked two and allowed eight hits.



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WEEK OF May 2

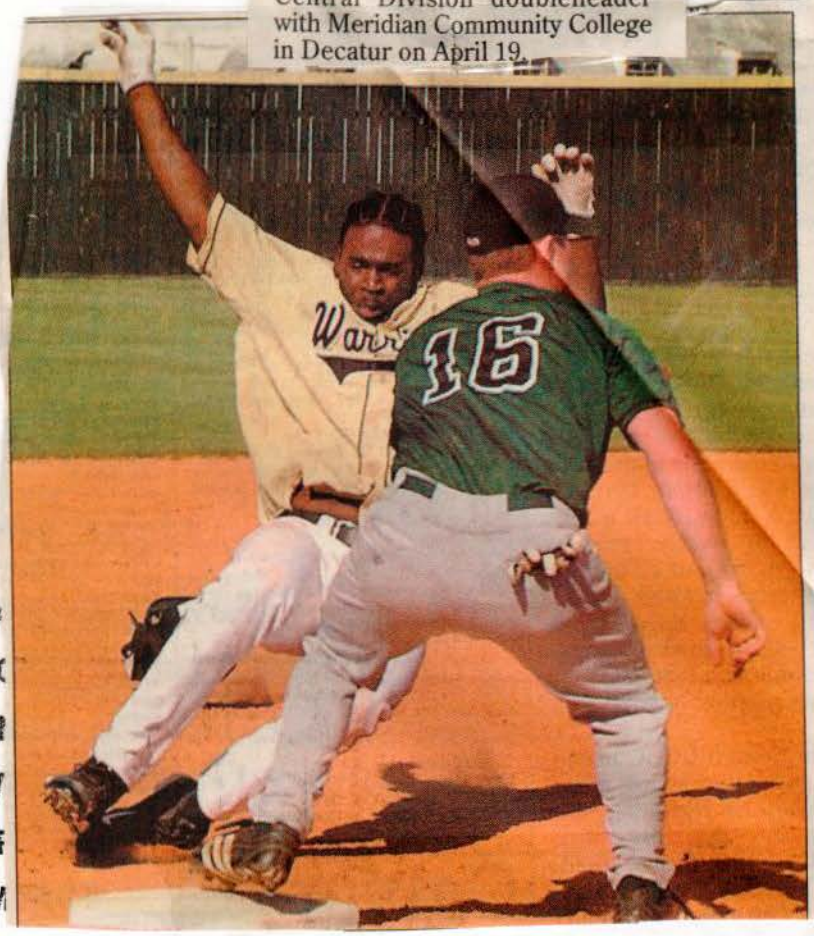
ECCC is ready for regionals

By Tony Krausz
sports editor

DECATUR — East Central Community College may have been idle on the baseball diamond for a week and a half entering the Region XXIII Baseball Tournament on Thursday, but the team already had a taste of postseason play this year.

The Warriors (18-17) entered the final week of the regular season needing to win two games to clinch a playoff spot and one win to tie East Mississippi Community College for the final berth from the Central Division into the postseason.

ECCC picked up its one win to draw even with EMCC when the Warriors split a Central Division doubleheader with Meridian Community College in Decatur on April 19.



Four days after finishing the regular season with no less than a tie for a postseason berth, ECCC swept Hinds Community College in a home divisional doubleheader to earn a trip to the Region XXIII tournament, with an extra win than neccessary to its credit.

"The guys responded," said ECCC head coach Jake Yarborough of the stretch run to end the season. "The time to be playing well is now, and we seem to be peaking at the right time. We are very excited about playing in the region tournament."

ECCC will open the Region XXIII tournament against Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, the tourney's host team.

The Warriors and Bulldogs will play the final game of the tournament's opening day, which is scheduled to start at 7 p.m.

Though ECCC will be playing on Gulf Coast's home turf, Yarborough said he isn't too worried about the Bulldogs holding home-field advantage.

"When you get down there, anybody can win," Yarborough said. "It is about getting hot at the right time in the playoffs. I told the guys, if we get in, anything can happen."

Thursday's game will be the Warriors' second trip to the community college in Perkinston this

See **Warriors**
Page D2

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From Page D1

year. ECCC faced Gulf Coast on Feb. 17 on the Bulldogs' home field.

The Warriors fell in both games of the doubleheader, their first losses of the season. ECCC started the year with six straight wins on its home field.

Yarborough said he isn't putting too much stock in what happened against the Bulldogs in February as the teams get set to meet two months later.

"Both team are going to be very different at this time of year," Yarborough said. "We made a lot of errors and weren't very sharp when we played them (in February). It is going to be like two different teams when we play each other again."

One of the biggest differences from the first two games these two squads played will be ECCC's starting pitcher.

The Warriors will use Josh Miller in the first game of the region tournament. The lefthander went 9-2 with a 2.42 ERA in the regular season, and he struck out 72 batters in 70 innings pitched.

"I'm sure they (Gulf Coast) has a good club, but they didn't see Josh the first time we played," Yarborough said.

And though ECCC hasn't seen any game action since its sweep of Hinds in late April, the Warriors have stayed sharp on the field. ECCC held an evening practice on Tuesday to get ready for the night game against Gulf Coast on Thursday.

"We are still sharp," Yarborough said. "We have been working just as hard as we did during the season. Our guys are OK."

WEEK OF May 2

Pitching carries ECCC in tourney

PERKINSTON —Josh Miller and Cody Savell put East Central Community College in the driver's seat entering the third day of the Region XXIII Baseball Tournament.

The Warriors' pitching duo threw back-to-back complete games on Thursday and Friday, keeping ECCC in prime pitching order at the region tournament.

TONY KRAUSZ
sports editor

"We have only given up three runs in 18 innings," said ECCC head baseball coach Jake Yarborough. "I couldn't be more pleased."

"(Miller and Savell) did their jobs," Yarborough said. "They hung in there and pitched nine-inning games. That is great for our guys on the pitching staff to keep everyone fresh."

Miller locked into a dazzling pitcher's duel with Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College's Miles Clark, whose team is hosting the regional, on Thursday.

The Warriors and Bulldogs pitchers combined to give up just nine runs in the opening-round matchup the ECCC won 2-0.

Miller gave up five hits, struck out seven and issued two walks to take the complete-game win.

Clark allowed just four hits in nine innings and struck out a remarkable 16 batters in a hard-luck loss.

"(Clark) did an awesome, awesome job," Miller said. "He did too good to lose. We knew coming in it was going to be a pitching battle. It was a duel to see who was going to last longer. Once it got tight, I told coach I feel like the defense can play behind me, my pitch count is staying down and I feel I can go the whole way."

The Gulf Coast pitcher's only true miscue came in the top of the fifth inning when ECCC's James Harris turned on a 2-0 pitch and sent a ball over the left-field wall at Ken Curly Farris Field.

Harris' home run was only East Central's second base hit of the game.

ECCC scratched out an insurance run in the top of the sixth, staring with right fielder Van Wilson drawing a one-out walk.

Taylor Petty notched hits number three for the Warriors with a single after the walk, and Corey Coward followed a strikeout with a single that brought home Wilson for the two-run advantage.

After the two-hit outburst in the sixth, Clark locked down ECCC's offense again not allowing another hit over the last three innings and striking out the last six batters he faced.

Miller was just as nasty in the game's final third.

The ECCC hurler struck out two batters in the seventh inning, one in the eighth and the first batter he faced in the bottom of the ninth inning.

"I wanted to take it upon my

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Cont'd

Kraus

From Page D1

shoulders," Miller said. "I felt like when it came down to it — every thing should fall on me win or lose."

Savell's outing — while just as long — wasn't has dazzling as the performance from the first night of the regional.

The sophomore, who graduated from Newton High School, threw a solid game, giving up three runs on seven hits with one strikeout in a 9-3 win over Southwest Mississippi Community College on Friday.

Savell's numbers weren't as overwhelming as the numbers put up by Miller — or for that matter, Clark — but he was able to lean heavily on an ECCC defense that play flawless in the second game of the regional.

Southwest hit into 16 groundouts and flew out six times, and ECCC turned two double plays — one in the fifth and one in the seventh — behind Savell.

Fittingly, the Warriors' right-hander was involved in the game's final putout.

After inducing a grounder to Coward, the Warriors' first baseman, Savell sprinted off the mound to take the flip to the bag and record the final out.

"The defense and hitters just took it over," Savell said of the win. "The defense got me out of a lot of jams and kept my pitch count low. I thought I did my job and hit my spots well."

The two Warriors' hurlers put their team in a position that no other club that survived into the tournament's final two days.

Meridian Community College used 10 pitchers in its first three games, and Mississippi Delta Community College — which ECCC played on Saturday — used seven pitchers after three games. Delgado (La.) Community College used nine pitchers in its three games in the tournamet.

ECCC, which finally used relievers in is third game, used six pitchers in its first three games of the tournament.

Not a bad spot to be in with just one more win to go to advance to a Super Regional and a shot at a trip to the Junior College World Series in Grand Junction, Colo.

Cont'd

Kraus

From Page D1

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WEEK OF May 2

Savell pitches all nine innings in win over Bears

By Tony Krausz
sports editor

PERKINSTON — Cody Savell let his defense do his job, and an East Central Community College pitcher completed another game in the Region XXIII Baseball Tournament on Friday.

Savell pitched a complete game in the Warriors' 9-3 victory over Southwest Mississippi Community College (19-24) to advance in the regional winner's bracket. The loss eliminated Southwest from the tournament.

Savell gave up three runs off eight hits with one strikeout in the win, as the Warriors defense didn't commit an error and executed two double plays in the win.

"The defense made all the plays today. I can't take any of the credit," Savell said. "The defense and hitters did it all."

> *The defense made all the plays today. I can't take any of the credit.*
>
> ECCC pitcher
> Cody Savell

ECCC (27-21) will face Meridian Community College at 4 p.m. today. The winner of that game will move into the regional championship game at 1 p.m. Sunday. The loser will play in an elimination game at 7 p.m. today.

The Warriors should be in good shape on the mound for the championship run, as ECCC's Josh Miller pitched a complete-game

See warriors
Page B5

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MERIDIAN STAR ✓
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From Page B1

shutout over host Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College on Thursday.

"You need great defense and good pitching to win championships," said ECCC head coach Jake Yarborough. "We have only given up three runs in the last 18 innings. I couldn't be more pleased.

"We are in good shape with our pitching," Yarborough said. "We have only used two pitchers, and that is really great for our staff."

ECCC answered every Southwest offensive output in Friday's win.

The Warriors answered the Bears' run in the top of the first inning with two runs in the bottom of the first, and after Southwest scored twice in the top of the fourth, ECCC tallied six unanswered runs for the win.

"We put the ball in play a lot, and we hit the ball well," Yarborough said. "We went out there and were aggressive with the sticks."

Southwest third baseman Cody White drove in the game's first run with an RBI single in the top of the first inning.

ECCC center field Marcus Davis didn't allow Southwest to hold a 1-0 lead long, as he drove a two-run home run over the right-field wall in the bottom of the first.

"It was a pretty big hit," Davis said. "It was a bit of a momentum changer."

ECCC added another run to its lead in the bottom of the second off an RBI single by Chris Pierce, but Southwest tied the score in the top of the fourth inning.

Bears pitcher Trent Malbrough drove in a run with an RBI single after Warriors hurler Cody Savell walked the bases loaded, and Pat Barnes drove in another run with a single to tie the score at 3.

ECCC retook the lead by a run with two infield hits in the bottom of the fourth.

Warriors catcher Taylor Petty brought home Joseph Cavenaugh with a single into the hole that the Bears' shortstop couldn't get to first base in time. Cavenaugh had reached on an infield popup that fell between Southwest's pitcher and second baseman.

ECCC increased its lead to 5-3 in the fifth inning as Corey Coward — who led off with a double — scored on a fielder's choice by James Harris.

The Warriors scored four runs in the sixth off three hits and an error for a six-run advantage.

Coward brought home two runs with a bases-loaded single, and Ross Pine drove home a run with a single. ECCC's final run of the sixth scored on a fielder's choice.

"Once we got the lead again, it was like (Southwest) gave up," Davis said. "Our pitching was there, and our defense backed him up. It was a pretty good game."

Petty went 3-for-5 for the Warriors, and Cavenaugh, Coward and Van Wilson each had two hits.

WEEK OF May 2

Warriors edge Gulf Coast

By Tony Krausz
sports editor

PERKINSTON – East Central Community College's James Harris broke a scoreless game open with a home run, and the Warriors pulled out a win on the first day of the Region XXIII Baseball Tournament.

ECCC defeated the tournament's host team, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, 2-0 in a contest dominated by pitching in the last of three games on Thursday.

The Warriors and Bulldogs combined for just nine hits in the nine-inning game.

ECCC starting pitcher Josh Miller, who recorded the win, gave up five hits with six strikeouts in the complete-game effort.

Gulf Coast starter Miles Clark carried a one-hitter into the fifth inning, but after Harris' home run, the Bulldogs hurler allowed four hits in nine innings. Clark had 16 strikeouts — striking out the last six hitters he faced — in the loss.

ECCC added its second run in the sixth inning off an RBI single by Corey Coward that brought home Van Wilson. The Warriors recorded two hits in the sixth, the highest hit total in one inning by either team.

ECCC will play Southwest Mississippi Community College in the second round of the tournament at 4 p.m. today. Gulf Coast will face Delgado (La.) Community College at 1 p.m. today in an elimination game.

The winner of the six-team, double elimination regional — which also includes Meridian Community College and Mississippi Delta Community College — advances to a Super Regional in Fort Smith, Ark. The Region XXIII tourney is scheduled to end on Sunday.

East Central improved its record to 26-21 with the win.

Gulf Coast fell to 28-23.

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WEEK OF May 2

Warriors win in 10 innings

By Tony Krausz
sports editor

PERKINSTON — Corey Coward ripped a single up the middle for one run and Marcus Davis scored on an error during the same play to propel East Central Community College to an extra-inning win on Saturday.

Coward's RBI single broke a 7-run tie in the top of the 10th inning, and ECCC hung on to defeat Mississippi Delta Community College 9-7 in 10 innings in a winners' bracket game at the Region XXIII Baseball Tournament.

ECCC — which hasn't lost a game in the regional —advanced to the championship game at 1 p.m. today, needing to win just one game to move into the Super Regional at Fort Smith, Ark. They will play the winner of Saturday's game between Meridian Community College and Mississippi Delta.

"It was overwhelming," said Coward, who went 2-for-6 with two RBIs, of the game winning hit. "We came back and got control of the game, and we got the lucky, winning hit."

ECCC finally had to dip into its bullpen to win a game in the contest against MDCC (26-23).

The Warriors, whose first two starters in the tournament went the distance, used four pitchers to top the Trojans, with ECCC closer Kevin Hatch earning the win in

See Warriors

From Page D1

three innings of relief.

"(Hatch) just did his job again for us tonight," said Warriors head coach Jake Yarborough, whose team improved to 28-21. "When we get into a tight situation, he is the guy we go to."

Hatch, who entered the game with the score tied at 7, finished the contest by picking off a runner at first base, after he fake a pickoff move to third.

The Trojan runner froze between first and second base, and the Warriors put him out with a throw from the Coward to shortstop Chris Pierce.

"It is a move that seems like it works for me every time that I use it," said Hatch, who improved to 4-1 for the season.

The Warriors didn't appear to be in any need of the late-game heroics they used to win early in the game.

Coward gave ECCC a 1-0 lead in the top of the first inning with an RBI single.

Warriors second baseman Joseph Cavenaugh scored in the top of third off an error by Trojans pitcher Antonio Garth, who tried to throw home after catching a high bouncer from Coward, to give ECCC a 2-0 lead.

Ken Gordon increased the Warriors' lead to 3-0 with a solo home run over the left-field wall in the top of the fourth inning.

ECCC designated hitter Ross Pine drove in another run with a single in the top of the fifth, and Will Pearson brought home a run with a double that bounced off the first-base bag for a 5-0 Warrior lead.

MDCC tied the game at 5 in the bottom of the fifth, scoring off four hits and an error. Trojans first baseman Neal Henry scored his team's first run on a wild pitch, and MDCC's Jacob Maggard, Brandon Herring, Trent Jennings and Mike Banchetti each drove in one runs.

ECCC responded with a run in the top of the sixth to take a 6-5 lead. Chris Pierce drove in Van Wilson — who moved to third base on two errors by MDCC — with a single.

MDCC came back in the bottom of the sixth to take its first lead of the game (7-6), courtesy of a two-run home run from pinch hitter Brad Aldridge.

ECCC's Marcus Davis tied the game at 7 in the top of the eighth, as Cavenaugh scored on his groundout to the shortstop.

"You have to have character to bounce back like that, and this team has a lot of character," Yarborough said. "I told them a few weeks ago that this is a special group, and they can do a lot of good things is they play together."

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WEEK OF May 2

Warriors ink four baseball players

Four area baseball standouts have signed national letters of intent with East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Diamond Warrior head coach Jake Yarborough.

Joining the ECCC squad for 2005-06 are Josh Denson, a 6-foot, 160-pound infielder/outfielder/pitcher from Carthage; Joe Patterson, a 6-4, 215-pound pitcher/outfielder and Luke Baugh, a 6-foot, 165-pound outfielder, both of Morton; and Jordan Robinson, a 6-1, 170-pound infielder/outfielder/pitcher of Union.

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Saturday, May 07, 2005

Savell pitches all nine innings in win over Bears

By Tony Krausz / sports editor

Friday, May 6, 2005 11:26 PM CDT

PERKINSTON - Cody Savell let his defense do his job, and an East Central Community College pitcher completed another game in the Region XXIII Baseball Tournament on Friday.

Savell pitched a complete game in the Warriors' 9-3 victory over Southwest Mississippi Community College (19-24) to advance in the regional winner's bracket. The loss eliminated Southwest from the tournament.

Savell gave up three runs off eight hits with one strikeout in the win, as the Warriors defense didn't commit an error and executed two double plays in the win.

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"You need great defense and good pitching to win championships," said ECCC head coach Jake Yarborough. "We have only given up three runs in the last 18 innings. I couldn't be more pleased.

"We are in good shape with our pitching," Yarborough said. "We have only used two pitchers, and that is really great for our staff."

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The Warriors answered the Bears' run in the top of the first inning

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with two runs in the bottom of the first, and after Southwest scored twice in the top of the fourth, ECCC tallied six unanswered runs for the win.

"We put the ball in play a lot, and we hit the ball well," Yarborough said. "We went out there and were aggressive with the sticks."

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ECCC center field Marcus Davis didn't allow Southwest to hold a 1-0 lead long, as he drove a two-run home run over the right-field wall in the bottom of the first.

"It was a pretty big hit," Davis said. "It was a bit of a momentum changer."

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Petty went 3-for-5 for the Warriors, and Cavenaugh, Coward and Van Wilson each had two hits. Barnes was the only Southwest player to record two hits.

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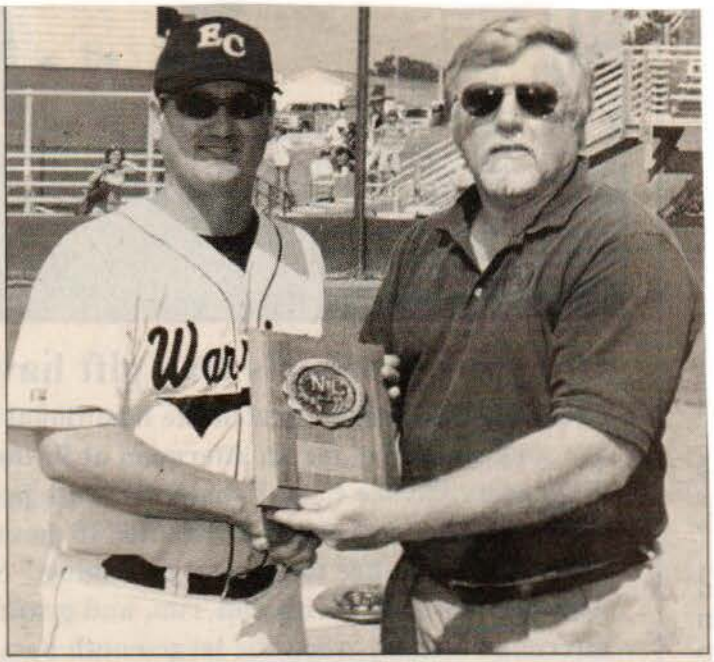
WEEK OF May 9



Yarborough Named Coach of the Year

East Central's Jake Yaborough, left, was selected Region 23 Baseball Coach of the Year after his Diamond Warriors won their first Region 23 title in baseball Sunday. Yarborough is presented the prestigious honor from Region 23 Director Chris Calcote, who serves as athletic director at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Perkinston, site of this year's tournament. *(ECCC Photo).*

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WEEK OF May 9

ECCC Warriors win Region 23 pennant

by Marty Stamper

What a time to get hot!

The East Central Community College Warriors went 4-0 to win the Region 23 Tournament, which was held at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Perkinston last week.

The Warriors upped their record to 29-21 and will be participating in a three-team Super Regional at Fort Smith, Ark., May 20-22.

Also competing at Fort Smith will be one school from both Region 2 (Oklahoma) and Region 16 (Missouri). Those regional tournaments are scheduled for this weekend at Northern Oklahoma College at Enid, Okla., and Crowder College at Neosho, Mo.

"I'm very proud about the way our guys responded," ECCC head coach Jake Yarborough said. "Toward the end of the year, we talked about the only way to get into the playoffs is to play well. As soon as we got in the playoffs, they took off."

ECCC	**2**
Gulf Coast	**0**

Josh Miller tossed a five-hit complete game as the 26-21 Warriors opened with a shutout victory over the host Bulldogs on Thursday.

Miller, a reverse transfer from Louisiana Tech, struck out six.

James Harris broke up a shutout with a solo homer off Miles Clark in the fifth inning. Clark, who had a one-hitter through four frames, struck out 16 in a losing effort.

The Warriors added an insurance run in the sixth as Corey Coward singled home Van Wilson for a 2-0 lead.

ECCC	**9**
Southwest	**3**

Cody Savell tossed a complete game for the Warriors in Friday's win over the Bears. He gave up three runs off eight

Continued on 7A... See Pennant...

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WEEK OF May 9

SPECIAL TO THE RECORD

East Central Community College's baseball team celebrates winning the Region 23 Tournament after defeating Mississippi Delta Community College 11-1 Sunday afternoon at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Perkinston.

Region 23 champs

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Cont'd

WEEK OF May 9

East Central qualifies late, rolls to Region title

■ Warriors advance to Super Regional in Fort Smith, Ark., on May 20-22.

By Tony Krausz
The Meridian Star

Josh Miller of Elysian Fields, Texas, got even better after two days of rest.

The East Central Community College pitcher went eight strong innings in an 11-1 win over Mississippi Delta Community College in the Region XXIII Baseball Tournament championship game on Sunday.

Miller threw a complete game in the Warriors' tournament opening victory against host-team Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College on Thursday.

"It doesn't get any better than this," said Miller, who gave up one run on three hits with six strikeouts on Sunday. "It was a pretty day, and the odds were in our favor. We let the defense play, and we let out bats do the talking."

"I'm very proud about the way our guys responded. Toward the end of the year, we talked about the only way to get into the playoff is to play well. As soon as we got in the playoffs, they took off."

Jake Yarborough
East Central Community College baseball coach

ECCC, which hasn't lost since the opening game of a doubleheader against Meridian Community College on April 19, didn't lose a game at Ken Curly Farris Field in capturing its first region title. MDCC needed to win two games on Sunday to win the regional tourney.

"I'm very proud about the way our guys responded," said ECCC head coach Jake Yarborough, whose team improved to 29-21. "Toward the end of the year, we talked about the only way to get into the playoff is to play well. As soon as we got in the playoffs, they took off."

ECCC took advantage of a tired MDCC squad early in Sunday's title game. The Warriors scored two runs in the first inning, two in the second and one in the third to take a 5-0 lead.

The Trojans (27-24) advanced to the title game by winning an 11-inning contest against Meridian Community College that ended at 12:13 a.m. Sunday.

"Delta has a great program, and they have a good coach (Tony Hancock) running their program," Yarborough said. "They had to be a little tired. They beat Meridian (Community College) twice, and

See **ECCC**, Page 3B

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Cont'd

WEEK OF May 9

East Central qualifies late, rolls to Region title

■ Warriors advance to Super Regional in Fort Smith, Ark., on May 20-22.

By Tony Krausz
The Meridian Star

Josh Miller of Elysian Fields, Texas, got even better after two days of rest.

The East Central Community College pitcher went eight strong innings in an 11-1 win over Mississippi Delta Community College in the Region XXIII Baseball Tournament championship game on Sunday.

Miller threw a complete game in the Warriors' tournament opening victory against host-team Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College on Thursday.

"It doesn't get any better than this," said Miller, who gave up one run on three hits with six strikeouts on Sunday. "It was a pretty day, and the odds were in our favor. We let the defense play, and we let out bats do the talking."

"I'm very proud about the way our guys responded. Toward the end of the year, we talked about the only way to get into the playoff is to play well. As soon as we got in the playoffs, they took off."

Jake Yarborough
East Central Community College baseball coach

ECCC, which hasn't lost since the opening game of a doubleheader against Meridian Community College on April 19, didn't lose a game at Ken Curly Farris Field in capturing its first region title. MDCC needed to win two games on Sunday to win the regional tourney.

"I'm very proud about the way our guys responded," said ECCC head coach Jake Yarborough, whose team improved to 29-21. "Toward the end of the year, we talked about the only way to get into the playoff is to play well. As soon as we got in the playoffs, they took off."

ECCC took advantage of a tired MDCC squad early in Sunday's title game. The Warriors scored two runs in the first inning, two in the second and one in the third to take a 5-0 lead.

The Trojans (27-24) advanced to the title game by winning an 11-inning contest against Meridian Community College that ended at 12:13 a.m. Sunday.

"Delta has a great program, and they have a good coach (Tony Hancock) running their program," Yarborough said. "They had to be a little tired. They beat Meridian (Community College) twice, and

See **ECCC**, Page 3B

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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Cont'd

WEEK OF May 9

ECCC

From Page 1B

Meridian was projected as the No. 1 seed in the tournament."

Corey Coward of Noxapater, who produced the game-winning hit against MDCC on Saturday in the semis, opened the scoring with a two-run double in the first inning.

The shot to left-center field brought home Van Wilson of Collinsville and Marcus Davis of Magee for a 2-0 lead after the first inning of play.

"It is always important to get out ahead in every game," Coward said. "It takes pressure off the defense and hitters."

The Warriors added two more runs to their lead in the bottom of the second inning. Wilson hit a sacrifice fly to bring home a run, and Chris Pierce of Petal scored on a passed ball for a 4-0 lead.

ECCC third baseman James Harris of Morton brought in another run with a two-out single that scored Davis for a 5-0 lead in the third inning.

Warriors left fielder Will Pearson of Decatur drove in another run with a single in the sixth inning, and Pierce followed with a two-run single for an 8-0 lead.

MDCC scored one run in the top of the eight inning off on RBI triple into the right-field corner by Neal Henry. ECCC responded with three runs in the bottom of the eighth for a 10-run lead. The Warriors scored on a wild pitch, a fielder's choice and an error in the eighth.

"We hit the ball hard, and we got hits a lot of the time when runners were in scoring position," said Yarborough, who was named the Region XXIII Coach of the Year. "We executed well."

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EC 9, Delta 7

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Coward's RBI single broke a 7-run tie in the top of the 10th inning, and ECCC hung on to defeat Mississippi Delta Community College 9-7 in 10 innings.

"It was overwhelming," said Coward, who went 2-for-6 with two RBIs, of the game winning hit. "We came back and got control of the game, and we got the lucky, winning hit."

East Central Community College finally had to dip into its bullpen to win a game in the regional.

The Warriors, whose first two starters in the tournament went the distance, used four pitchers to top the Trojans, with ECCC closer Kevin Hatch of Carthage earning the win in three innings of relief.

"(Hatch) just did his job again for us tonight," said Warrior head coach Jake Yarborough, whose team improved to 28-21. "When we get into a tight situation, he is the guy we go to."

The Warriors didn't appear to be in any need of the late-game heroics they used to win early in the game.

Region XXIII Baseball Tournament on Friday.

Savell pitched a complete game in the Warriors' 9-3 victory over Southwest Mississippi Community College (19-24) to advance in the regional winner's bracket. The loss eliminated Southwest from the tournament.

Savell gave up three runs off eight hits with one strikeout in the win, as the Warriors' defense didn't commit an error and executed two double plays in the win.

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ECCC answered every Southwest offensive output in Friday's win. The Warriors answered the Bears' run in the top of the first inning with two runs in the bottom of the first, and after Southwest scored twice in the top of the fourth, ECCC tallied six unanswered runs for the win.

Petty went 3-for-5 for the Warriors, and Cavenaugh, Coward and Van Wilson each had two hits. Barnes was the Southwest player to record multiple hits with two.

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MERIDIAN STAR _____
CLARION-LEDGER _____

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"I don't care what the score is, I never say it is over against (Delta)," Yarborough said. "It wasn't over until it was over."

Harris went 3-for-4 with two singles, a double and an RBI, and Pearson went 2-for-4 with two singles and an RBI. ECCC out-hit MDCC 11-3.

The Warriors advanced

Coward gave ECCC a 1-0 lead in the top of the first inning with an RBI single.

Warrior second baseman Joseph Cavenaugh of Decatur scored in the top of third off an error by Trojans pitcher Antonio Garth, who tried to throw home after catching a high bouncer from Coward, to give ECCC a 2-0 lead. Ken Gordon of Morton increased the Warriors' lead to 3-0 with a solo home run over the left-field wall in the top of the fourth inning.

ECCC designated hitter Ross Pine of Watson, La., drove in another run with a single in the top of the fifth, and Will Pearson of Decatur brought home a run with a double that bounced off the first-base bag for a 5-0 Warrior lead.

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The Warriors and Bulldogs combined for just nine hits in the nine-inning game.

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ECCC added its second run in the sixth innng off an RBI single by Corey Coward that brought home Van Wilson. The Warriors recorded two hits in the sixth, the highest hit total in one inning by either team.

Cont'd

sissippi Delta Community College 9-7 in 10 innings in a winners' bracket game of the Region XXIII Baseball Tournament.

ECCC-which hasn't lost a game in the regional-advanced to the championship game at 1 p.m. today, needing to win just one game to move into the Super Regional at Fort Smith, Ark. They will play the winner of Saturday night's game between MDCC-Meridian Community College in the title game.

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Hatch, who entered the game with the score tied at 7, finished the contest by picking off a runner at first base, after he fake a pickoff move to third.

The Trojan runner froze between first and second base, and the Warriors put him out with a throw from the Coward to shortstop Chris Pierce.

"It is a move that seems like it works for me every time that I use it," said Hatch, who improved to 4-1 for the season.

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MDCC tied the game at 5 in the bottom of the fifth, scoring off four hits and an error. Trojans first baseman Neal Henry scored his team's first run on a wild pitch, and MDCC's Jacob Maggard, Brandon Herring, Trent Jennings and Mike Banchetti each drove in one run.

ECCC responded with a run in the top of the sixth to take a 6-5 lead.

Chris Pierce drove in Van Wilson of Collinsville-who moved to third base on two errors by MDCC-with a single.

MDCC came back in the bottom of the sixth to take its first lead of the game (7-6), courtesy of a two-run home run from pinch hitter Brad Aldridge.

ECCC's Marcus Davis tied the game at 7 in the top of the eighth, as Cavenaugh scored on his groundout to the shortstop.

"You have to have character to bounce back like that, and this team has a lot of character," Yarborough said. "I told them a few weeks ago that this is a special group, and they can do a lot of good things is they play together."

Cont'd

GAME 2
EC 9, Southwest 3

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"We put the ball in play a lot, and we hit the ball well," Yarborough said. "We went out there and were aggressive with the sticks."

Southwest third baseman Cody White drove in the game's first run with an RBI single in the top of the first inning.

ECCC center fielder Marcus Davis didn't allow Southwest to hold a 1-0 lead long, as he drove a two-run home run over the right-field wall in the bottom of the first.

"It was a pretty big hit," Davis said. "It was a bit of a momentum changer."

ECCC added another run to its lead in the bottom of the second off an RBI single by Chris Pierce, but Southwest tied the score in the top of the fourth inning.

Bears pitcher Trent Malbrough drove in a run with an RBI single, afterWarrior hurler Cody Savell walked the bases loaded, and Pat Barnes drove in another run with a single to knot the score at 3.

ECCC retook the lead-by a run-with two infield hits in the bottom of the fourth. Warrior catcher Taylor Petty of Philadelphia brought home Joseph Cavenaugh with a single into the hole that the Bears' shortstop couldn't get to first base in time. Cavenaugh had reached on an infield popup that fell between Southwest's pitcher and second baseman.

ECCC increased its lead to 5-3 in the fifth inning, as Corey Coward-who led off with a double-scored on a fielder's choice by James Harris.

The Warriors scored four runs in the sixth off three hits and an error for a six-run advantage.

Coward brought home two runs with a bases-loaded single, and Ross Pine drove home a run with single. ECCC's final run of the sixth scored on a fielder's choice.

"Once we got the lead again, it was like (Southwest) gave up," Davis said. "Our pitching was there, and our defense backed him up. It was a pretty good game."

Petty went 3-for-5 for the Warriors, and Cavenaugh, Coward and Van Wilson each had two hits. Barnes was the Southwest player to record multiple hits with two.

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WEEK OF May 9

ECCC wins region title

By TONY KRAUSX
Special to The Democrat

Josh Miller of Elysian Fields, Texas, got even better after two days of rest.

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Coward's RBI single broke a 7-run tie in the top of the 10th inning, and ECCC hung on to defeat Mississippi

See ECCC, page 10A

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 9, 2005

Diamond Warriors Capture Title

SCOTT COUNTY PLAYERS MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS

By TONY KRAUSZ
THE MERIDIAN STAR

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Please see WARRIORS, 9A

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

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WARRIORS

From Page 12A

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Coach Yarborough was just as complimentary.

"You need great defense and good pitching to win championships," Yarborough said.

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WEEK OF May 16, 2005

BASEBALL

East Central, Co-Lin, Itawamba

East Central Community College, which won the NJCAA Region 23 Division I championship, got a lift, both physical and emotional, from the return of John Fortenberry to the squad this season.

Fortenberry is the pitcher whose face was crushed by a line drive during an intrasquad game in January 2004.

Fortenberry, who lost his right eye as a result of the injury, returned this season, wearing a protective mask, and went 2-4 with a sub-4.00 ERA for the Warriors, 29-21.

ECCC opens super regional play today at Fort Smith, Ark., playing Northeast Oklahoma at 1 p.m. and Maple Woods (Mo.) at 4. It's a three-team, double-elimination tournament that will send its winner to the juco D-I World Series (May 28-June 4 at Grand Junction, Colo).

"It was great to have John back," said East Central coach Jake Yarborough. "He's adjusted well. He still throws three good pitches — fastball, split finger and curve. He made a lot of good starts for us; he just got a bunch of no-decisions."

The Warriors' ace is lefty Josh Miller (11-2). Fortenberry and Cody Savol are the other primary starters, and Kevin Hatch (4-1, 8 saves, 1.30 ERA) closes.

ON BASEBALL

Mike Christensen

"Our pitching and defense were pretty good all year," Yarborough said. "Our hitting was just OK, but we started putting it all together at the right time of year."

Marcus Davis, who has 10 homers, Ross Pine and Corey Coward were ECCC's top hitters.

Davis hit three homers in a doubleheader sweep of Hinds on the last day of the regular season that put the Warriors in the region tourney and kept their season alive.

Don't forget ...

Juco Region 23 D-II region champs Itawamba and Copiah-Lincoln opened play Thursday in a super regional at St. Catherine, Ky.

Sluggers Andy Rice and Kyle Mills, who signed with Mississippi State and Ole Miss, respectively, have gotten most of the attention at No. 11 ICC.

But the Indians' unsung offensive hero has been Clay Dozier, a Delta State signee. Dozier is hitting .416 with an on-base percentage of .505, plus 21 doubles and 48 RBIs.

Both ICC (Jared Koon, Matt McKissick) and Co-Lin,(Ryan Belanger, Derek Thompson) appear to have the pitching needed for a good postseason run. But only one will get out of their super regional to reach the D-II CWS (May 28-June 3 at Millington, Tenn). They didn't meet during the regular season.

M-Bits

The race is on, more or less, to see which former Mississippi Brave will be the first to advance to the major league club.

Left-hander Casey DeHart became the fourth player to be promoted from the M-Braves' roster to Triple-A Richmond when he got the call on Tuesday.

DeHart joins outfielder Derrick Gibson and pitchers Macay McBride and Zach Miner in Richmond.

McBride, a 22-year-old lefty, is on the 40-man roster, so he might have the clear-

chasing national bids

est path to Atlanta. As of Thursday, he was 1-0 with a 3.18 ERA for the R-Braves. McBride was a first-round pick in 2001 and had a 3.09 ERA in the minors entering this season.

Miner, 23, a right-hander, was a fourth-round pick in 2000. He was 2-1 with a 5.19 at Richmond after a rough outing on Monday.

DeHart and Gibson are older players signed as minor-league free agents this year. Gibson has some big-league experience with Colorado in 1998-99.

Keep in mind that the Braves could just as easily promote a player from the Double-A club. Reliever Jorge Vasquez, for instance, is also on the 40-man, has big-league experience and has a 1.86 ERA in 13 games. ...

After a 2-4 homestand that ended with four straight losses, the M-Braves start a seven-game road trip today. They play three at Jacksonville and four at Chattanooga. Mississippi is 11-12 on the road, 5-12 at Trustmark Park.

Touching the bases

Despite a 3½-week layoff, Millsaps coach Jim Page liked his team's chances going into the NCAA Division III regional that began Thursday. One reason: During one of the Majors' five intrasquad games last week, a brawl nearly broke out. "Everybody was excited about that," Page said. "It showed we still had some fight in us." ... Texas Rangers pitcher Ryan Bukvich, the former Ole Miss, Delta State and Northwest Rankin standout, was scheduled for arm surgery today that will end his 2005 season. Bukvich, acquired by the Rangers on waivers from San Diego in February, had an 11.25 ERA in four appearances. Bukvich pitched for Kansas City in 2004. ... There's a larger purpose to Oil Can Boyd's comeback at age 45 in the independent Can-Am League. *Sports Illustrated* reported recently that the colorful Meridian native plans to launch a barnstorming team of ex-big leaguers next year. ... The MPSA (private school) All-Star Games are scheduled for next Thursday at Trustmark Park in Pearl. It's the first non-M-Braves event scheduled at the new ballpark by Tim Bennett of Overtime Sports, which has a management contract at the facility.

APPEARED IN

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WEEK OF May 16 2005

Warriors set for play in tourney

By Marty Stamper
staff writer

FORT SMITH, Ark. — The East Central Community College Warriors begin play in the NJCAA South Central District Tournament today when they face Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College at 1 p.m. at Crowder Field on the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith campus.

The Warriors' day continues with a 4 p.m. contest with Maple Woods (Mo.) Community College. NEO and Maple Woods tangle in the 7 p.m. game.

The Region XXIII champion Warriors (29-21) bring a seven-game winning streak into the game with the 41-19 Golden Norsemen of NEO.

> *We began putting it together about midway through our conference games.*
>
> **Warriors coach Jake Yarborough**

"We began putting it together about midway through our conference games," said ECCC head coach Jake Yarborough. "We had been knowing all year that we had a decent team, we just hadn't put it all together.

"We've had good pitching performances all year, and our defense has been pretty good," Yarborough added. "We've struggled hitting and had some slumps in there, but when we began swinging the bats better, that told us that we had a chance, if we could just put it all together in one package."

For the year, the Warriors are batting just .265 as a team. Opponents, however, are hitting only .236 against Warrior pitching. ECCC pitchers have a 3.79 ERA and have 266 strikeouts to go with 141 walks. In 46 games, Warrior pitchers have surrendered only 18 home runs.

The Warriors will start Josh Miller on the mound in the first game and Cody Savell in the second. John Fortenberry would get the nod in a third game either on Saturday or Sunday.

Miller leads the ECCC pitchers with an 11-2 record and a 2.07 ERA. In 91⅓ innings, he has 85 strikeouts and 31 walks. Opponents are batting a mere .184 off the transfer from Louisiana Tech.

"Miller's had an outstanding year," Yarborough said. "He's got command of all his pitches. He's a southpaw that doesn't throw real hard. He's an upper-80s (mph) guy that has four pitches. If one's not on, he's got two or three others he can go to.

"He's a smart pitcher. He knows how to work hitters and how to command the baseball," Miller added. "That's got a lot to do with his success. Plus, he's got a lot of confidence in what he's able to do. He's a competitor and a winner."

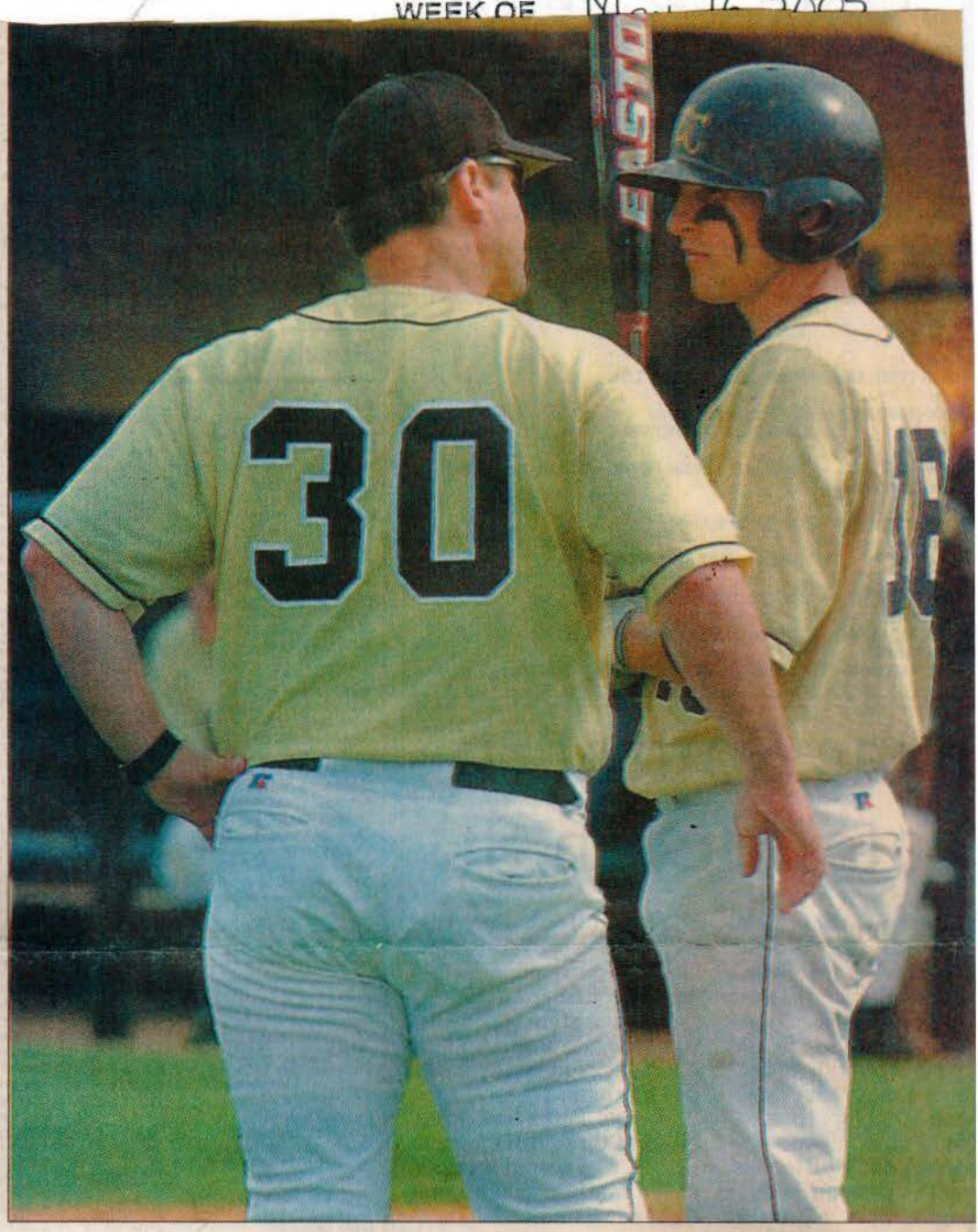

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STA

GETTING INSTRUCTIONS

East Central Community College outfielder Joseph Cavenaugh gets some batting instructions from Warriors head coach Jake Yarborough in a game earlier this season. ECCC opens play in a three-team Super Regional against Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College at 1 p.m. today at Crowder Field on the campus of the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith.

At A Glance

NJCAA South Central District Tournament at Fort Smith, Ark.
Today's games

1 p.m. — East Central (29-21) vs. Northeastern Oklahoma A&M (41-19)
4 p.m. — East Central vs. Maple Woods (37-24)
7 p.m. — NEO vs. Maple Woods

Savell (5-6, 3.94) is the No. 2 pitcher.

"He throws a little harder than Miller," Yarborough said. "He's going to stay between 87-88 (mph) and can run it up in the low-90s every now and then.

"He's got a lot of run on his fastball. His breaking ball has gotten better and better," Yarborough added. "He's lost some games tha were real close that we could have won, or hi record would be a lot better than what it is."

Kevin Hatch (4-1, 1.32, 8 saves) is the close He has 38 strikeouts in 34 innings. Opponent are hitting just .136 off the sophomore fror Carthage.

"He's our go-to guy when the game get close at the end," Yarborough said. "He's com in a lot of times when the game is tied an picked up the wins.

"He's a 6-foot-5 submarine guy, and he's rea stingy and doesn't give up many hits," Yarbo ough added. "His strikeout rate is pretty gooc He gets a lot of ground-ball double plays. He' got a lot of run on his fastball and has a goo

See **Warriors**
Page B2

Cont'd

Warriors

From Page B1

breaking ball to go with it."

Defensively, the Warriors are fielding at a .937 clip.

Marcus Davis is the top hitter, batting .312 with 10 homers and 29 RBI. He's been successful on 12-of-16 stolen base attempts.

"Davis is our No. 3 hitter," Yarborough said of the 2004 21st-round draft pick of the Florida Marlins. "He's a good runner and has a good arm in the outfield. He's an outstanding center fielder. He can run and go get it."

Davis came to ECCC from Magee after Copiah-Lincoln failed to protect him.

"Coach (Keith) Case said he never did get a chance to come watch me, so he didn't have a scholarship for me," Davis said. "Coach Yarborough offered me one, and I've enjoyed it ever since.

Corey Coward is batting .309 with eight doubles and 32 RBI. Other top hitters are Taylor Petty (.309), Ross Pine (.293, 3 HR, 16 RBI) and Van Wilson (.285, 8 2B, 4 HR, 20 RBI).

"Corey Coward started off the year real slow, but he's been on fire here lately," Yarborough said. "He's hitting well over .400 in the conference. He's getting on base a lot with 20 walks."

"We're built on our pitching and defense. We've got guys that know how to move runners and get them in scoring position," Yarborough added. "That's how we try to knock them in. We're not going to go out there and hit a bunch of home runs. We're going to try to move some guys over and run some bases. We're not a powerhouse as far as hitting, but we're going to try to go out there and get the job done."

Top hitters for NEO are Aljay Davis (.446, 7 2B, 33 RBIs, 43-of-47 SBs), Joseph Godinez (.351, 13 2B, 7 HR, 51 RBIs), Kirt Kleindienst (.338, 27 RBIs), Chris Hardin (.328, 5 HR, 37 RBIs) and Nicolas Boisvert (.333, 6 HR, 68 RBIs). The top pitchers are Nicholas Bleau (5-1, 4.29), Edgardo Cepeda (6-1, 4.71), J.T. King (8-0, 3.39) and Simon Gagnon (5-1, 4.96).

The Golden Norsemen are batting .327 and have a 5.02 team ERA. Opponents are batting .242 off NEO pitching.

Leading the 37-24 Centaurs of Maple Woods at the plate are Jake Blackwood (.387, 20 2B, 19 HR, 75 RBIs, 21-of-22 SBs), Josh Abercrombie (.375, 16 2B, 6 HR, 47 RBIs), Nick Jaros (.347, 13 2B, 5 3B, 5 HR, 54 RBIs, 27-of-31 SB), Ross Kelling (.382, 12 2B, 11 HR, 67 RBIs) and Chris Redman (.335, 11 2B, 36 RBIs).

The top pitchers are Joey Haug (6-7, 4.20 ERA), Tyler Lipscomb (6-2, 3.83) and Lonnie Patterson (4-2, 4.24).

The Centaurs are batting .318 with a 5.37 team ERA.

WEEK OF May 16, 2005

Fortenberry leads by example

FORT SMITH, Ark. — Every successful team has its leaders. Some lead by their actions on the field. Others lead by their ability to inspire others.

It's no question that the inspirational leader on the East Central Community College baseball team is John Fortenberry, a right-handed redshirt freshman pitcher who lost his right eye as the result of a wicked line drive to the face during an intrasquad game on Jan. 23, 2004.

MARTY STAMPER
staff writer

Since then, Fortenberry has had six surgeries and 19 screws in his face. He pitches with a facemask often used by bull riders.

While many would have thrown in the towel as far as trying to play baseball after such an injury, Fortenberry has bounced back to throw 50 innings this spring for the 29-21 Warriors, who are competing in the NJCAA South Central District Tournament this weekend.

In a true Hollywood story, Fortenberry would have not only won every game he threw this spring, but he would have struck out every batter he faced.

In reality, Fortenberry is 2-4 with a 4.14 ERA. He has 44 strikeouts and 27 walks, but numbers alone don't begin to measure his value to the team.

"It's been a special thing for all of us," said ECCC head coach Jake Yarborough. "Him getting hurt last year before the season even started and being able to come back takes a lot of heart. It takes a love for the game to get back out on the field and try to pick up where he was.

"He's come out of several games where he had no decision, and we'd end up getting the win," Yarborough added. "He's done a good job this year. He's got a good split-finger fastball in the mid-80s (mph) and a good breaking ball."

ECCC closer Kevin Hatch played with Fortenberry at Carthage High School as well as at ECCC. He's been impressed with his buddy as well.

"He's proved himself so much after he lost his eye last year," Hatch said. "He does have to wear a mask, but he has done exceptional this year. I was really impressed.

"He means a lot to me as a friend because I've grown up with him," Hatch added. "I'm just glad to see him doing as well as he is. A lot of people would just lay down and not do anything, but John loves the game and he decided that he wanted to keep playing."

The comeback trail hasn't been easy.

"It was more of a mental thing," Fortenberry said. "I had problems with getting mad before. I worked it down a lot. Now, it's trying to come back on me. I'm going to have to fight it off."

Judging pop ups was a major problem area at first.

"That's gotten a lot better," Fortenberry said. "I can do that now."

There was a time when judging how big a lead a runner at third base was getting was a problem too.

"I used to have to turn more toward third, but not any more," Fortenberry said. "I know how much to turn my head now. It's not real bad.

"I'm glad to be here. We're going to try to do what we can to win."

See **Stamper**
Page B3

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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Cont'd

Stamper

From Page B1

Whether ECCC wins the tournament or not, Fortenberry's inspiration is something his teammates won't soon forget.

"He's been a real big influence on me," said Warriors leading hitter Marcus Davis. "Nothing like that ever happened to me, but to see him come back from something like that takes a lot of heart.

"I told him one time that I really don't understand how he has done it," Davis added. "I would have probably given up after losing an eye. That would have been a big blow.

"He's been a big inspiration to me."

Build it and they will come

The Warriors spent Thursday morning practicing at the Field of Dreams Complex in Van Buren, Ark. The field ECCC practiced on is the home of the Van Buren High School Pointers.

Sneaking a peak

After Thursday's practice, the Warriors took a quick peak at Crowder Field, on the campus of the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith, where the Super Regional will be played.

The stop would have been shorter had the Warriors not been asked to help remove the tarp from the infield.

Crowder Field measures 328 feet down the left-field line, 367 to left-center, 360 to right-center, 334 to right field and 410 to dead center.

WEEK OF May 16, 2005

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

LET 'ER RIP

East Central Community College freshman James Harris takes a swing in a game earlier this season against East Mississippi Community College. The Warriors, who upset their way to the championship of the Region XXIII Tournament last weekend, will begin play in a Super Regional in Fort Smith, Ark., on Friday. East Central will take on the champion of the Missouri regional at 1 p.m. on Friday, then turn around and play the champion of the Oklahoma regional at 4 p.m.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

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WEEK OF May 16, 2005

Warriors

by Marty Stamper

After taking a few days off, the East Central Community College Warriors baseball team has been back on the diamond preparing to compete in this weekend's NJCAA South Central District Tournament at Fort Smith, Ark.

"We gave them Monday and Tuesday off and started practicing on Wednesday," ECCC head coach Jake Yarborough said of last week's plan.

Also in the three-team field with the 29-21 Warriors are Maple Woods Community College of Kansas City, Mo., and Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College of Miami, Okla.

Maple Woods (35-24), which boasts of six Region 16 championships in the last nine years, defeated top-seeded Crowder College 5-1 in Monday's finals at Neosho, Mo.

Among the Centaurs' alumni is 2001 National League Rookie of the Year Albert Pujols. Maple Woods has been nationally ranked every year since 1997.

At Bartlesville, Okla., NEO shocked Connors State College 6-1 in the finals of the Region 2 Tournament on Monday. Connors was ranked No. 1 in the nation in the final NJCAA regular-season poll. NEO upped its record to 41-19.

With those tournaments not ending until Monday, the Warriors have been working on their game as opposed to worrying about what the opponents in the Super Regional might have to offer.

"Basically, we've been doing that all year," Yarborough said. "We're just making sure that we're taking care of what we're supposed to be doing and keep working hard.

"We're not taking any vacations. It's not over. We've still got a lot of work to do."

In the Region 16 Tournament, the Maple Woods Centaurs had wins over St. Charles (11-8), Jefferson County (15-11), and Crowder (8-0) before losing 7-5 to Crowder on Sunday.

Maple Woods was the No. 2 seed, while Crowder entered No. 1.

In the Region 2 Tournament, the fourth-seeded Norsemen of NEO opened with a 16-14 victory over Eastern Oklahoma State, then knocked off Seminole State 2-0 in the second round. They stayed in the winners' bracket with a 6-2 win over Connors on Saturday.

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

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May 16, 2005

off to Super Regional at Fort Smith

Warriors Head to South Central District Tournament

Members of the 2005 Diamond Warrior baseball team at East Central Community College in Decatur include (front row, from left) pitcher/outfielder Andre Coleman, second baseman/third baseman Brandon Ezell, shortstop Jon Maxie, second baseman Sam Thames, shortstop James Harris, outfielder Dillon McInnis, catcher Ken Gordon, outfielder Travis Butler, second baseman Chris Pierce, manager Kevin Gregory, (second row) pitcher Josh Miller, first baseman Wes Cox, shortstop David Frey, catcher/outfielder Taylor Petty, pitcher Kevin Hatch, pitcher Jon Cole, pitcher/outfielder Darren Graham, catcher Josh Hawkins, catcher/first baseman Corey Coward, pitcher Cody Savell, student assistant Josh Yeager, Newton County; (back row) shortstop/pitcher Bud Loper, pitcher Lucas Poole, first baseman/outfielder Will Pearson, outfielder/pitcher Marcus Davis, pitcher Justin Mullinax, third baseman Keith Edwards, outfielder John Harris, pitcher John Fortenberry, pitcher/first baseman Ross Pine, and outfielder Van Wilson. Not pictured is outfielder Joseph Cavenaugh. Jake Yarborough serves as head coach. Dusty Hillman is assistant coach. ***(ECCC Photo)***

May 16, 2005

Connors drew even with a 3-0 victory on Sunday to set the stage for Monday's showdown.

A little time off to reflect on EC's first-ever Region 23 Division I championship came in handy as the Warriors closed out exam week. With all Mississippi junior colleges dropping to Division II next spring, the Warriors will hold the distinction of being the last Division I champion from the state.

"It's very special for our guys and for our school," Yarborough said. "It's something that a lot of teams that have come through here have tried to do.

"It's just an honor and a privilege to win it. We've had a lot of alumni backing us and calling us and telling us congratulations. That means something to me. That's something special."

Josh Miller (11-2, 2.07) picked up two wins in the Region 23 Tournament as he tossed 17 innings over four days. Despite coming to the Warriors from Elysian Fields, Texas, he knows the regional championship is a very big deal to the EC program.

"It's a great feeling of accomplishment," said Miller, who transferred after one year at Louisiana Tech. "They said this is probably the best group of guys they've had here in a long time. About halfway through the season, it looked like the playoffs might not be a possibility, but we peaked at the right time."

The Warriors were just 17-17 after suffering a pair of 10-run losses at Meridian Community College on April 2. In fact, they had to win each of their last three games just to qualify for the regional.

"When Meridian came here (on April 19), we knew we had to win one of those games and then sweep Hinds to get in," Yarborough said. "When we came back the second game and beat Meridian 16-3, that was a confidence booster to get us into that Saturday doubleheader with Hinds.

"We played pretty good against Hinds and swept them."

Even the final win over Hinds didn't come easy as the Warriors had to score three runs in the bottom of the seventh inning to clinch a playoff berth with an 8-7 victory.

EC opened the regional with a 2-0 win over tournament host Gulf Coast, despite having 16 batters go down on strikeouts.

"We knew having Miller as our No. 1 starting off against them we had a shot to win as long as we played good defense," Yarborough said. "They hadn't seen him before."

The Warriors started their season strong, winning eight of their first 11 games. Then came a mid-season slump that saw them lose eight of 10 contests.

"We started off great," first baseman Corey Coward (.309, 32 RBI) of Noxapater said. "We were 6-0, but around the middle of the season we had some tough breaks. We were playing some close games with some great teams, but it just wasn't falling for us.

"We peaked at just the right time. Everybody is playing good together and getting along well. We've come really close as a team.

"I came out of Noxapater High School wanting to come here. I've always loved EC and in my two years here, I still love it. I would like to play another year here. I've enjoyed playing for coach Yarborough. We're following a heritage that coach (Jamie) Clark left behind and we just want to carry it on and be a part of it."

"When we played Meridian at our field, that really got our momentum going for the end of the year and has carried us in the playoffs," closer Kevin Hatch (4-1, 1.32) of Carthage said.

"We played like another team (at the regional). I think we were at the highest point of our season during the playoffs and that's when you need it. We performed when it was needed.

EC will play NEO at 1 p.m. Friday and Maple Woods at 4 p.m. NEO and Maple Woods tangle at 7 p.m. Friday in the double-elimination tournament.

The Warriors leave this morning at 8:30 a.m. for Fort Smith.

NJCAA South Central District Tournament

at Fort Smith, Ark.

Friday's Games

1 p.m.: East Central (29-21) vs. Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College (41-19)

4 p.m.: East Central vs. Maple Woods (Mo.) (35-24)

7 p.m.: NEO vs. Maple Woods

Saturday's Game

2 p.m.: TBA

Sunday's Game

2 p.m.: TBA

WEEK OF May 16, 2005

ECCC set for Super Regional

Special to The Record

Region 23 champion East Central Community College begins competition in its first Super Regional by taking on Region 2 winner Northeastern Oklahoma A & M College, located in Miami, Oklahoma, at 1 p.m. Friday in the first game of the 2005 Division I South Central District Tournament hosted by the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith.

The Diamond Warriors, who are 29-21 on the Decatur campus under fourth-year head coach Jake Yarborough, will challenge Region 16 champ Maple Woods Community College of Kansas City, Missouri, in the 4 p.m. game.

Super Regional

- **What:** NJCAA Division I Super Regional
- **Where:** University of Arkansas at Fort Smith
- **When:** Starts Friday at 4 p.m.
- **Teams:** East Central, Maple Woods CC (Kansas), Northeastern Oklahoma

Yarborough

Northeastern Oklahoma and Maple Woods will meet at 7 p.m. to wrap up the first day of competition in the best of three series, which continues through Sunday.

The winner advances to the NJCAA World Series scheduled May 28- June 4 in Grand Junction, Colo.

The Warriors advanced to the tournament by sweeping through the Region 23 tournament last week in which the Warriors were undefeated.

It was East Central's first-ever Region 23 championship in baseball and the team will be playing for the school's first-ever berth in the NJCAA College World Series at Grand Junction, Colo.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 5-23-05

Warriors come up empty in district tournament

by Marty Stamper

FORT SMITH, Ark. — The East Central Community College baseball team had pretty much used its pitching and defense to achieve its success on the baseball diamond this spring.

So when those two elements weren't up to their usual standards Friday, the Warriors made a hasty exit from the NJCAA Division I South Central District Tournament at the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith.

The Warriors lost 8-3 to eventual tournament champion Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College in their first game and were eliminated with a 9-4 loss to Maple Woods (Mo.) Community College in their second game.

The Warriors finished their season with a 29-23 record.

EC committed six errors against NEO which led to six unearned runs. The Warriors followed that with an eight-error performance against Maple Woods.

EC pitchers combined to issue a dozen walks in the two games.

"We just didn't execute defensively," EC head coach Jake Yarborough said. "You've got to be playing your best defensively when you're in a tournament like this, and we didn't.

"We fell short. This is probably the worst defensive day that we've had all year, and unfortunately, it came at this time. Defensively, we've been very strong this year. It's just that all of a sudden it hit us in one day. We just didn't execute."

Warrior sophomore center fielder Marcus Davis had a good showing as he hit a home run in each game and went 4-for-8 with four RBIs.

"Marcus is a good ballplayer," Yarborough said. "He's got a lot of ability and he played well. He steps up when we need him to and this was one of those days we needed him to be at his peak and he was there.

"He'll have a chance to go on and play professional baseball. We expect him to go a long way in his career."

Northeastern Okla.	**8**
ECCC	**3**

The Golden Norsemen scored six unearned runs off six EC errors in taking the day's opener.

Two errors in the third inning led to five unearned runs for NEO as a 1-0 Warrior advantage turned into a 5-1 deficit. NEO's big hit in the inning was a two-run triple by Noel Ahumada.

EC had taken a 1-0 lead in the top of the first inning as Davis hit a two-out single to center field and scored on another single to center by Corey Coward.

NJCAA South Central District Tournament
at Fort Smith, Ark.
Friday's Scores
Game 1: Northeastern Oklahoma A&M 8, East Central 3
Game 2: Maple Woods (Mo.) 9, East Central 4
Game 3: NEO 7, Maple Woods 5, 10 innings
Saturday's Score
Game 4: NEO 14, Maple Woods 1

The Warriors got their second run in the sixth as Davis led off with a solo homer in the right-field corner. It was his 11th of the year.

The 42-19 Norsemen got that run back in the bottom of the inning as Nick Patterson reached on an error and scored on a two-out infield hit by Joseph Godinez.

EC got back-to-back doubles from Van Wilson and Taylor Petty in the top of the seventh to close to within 7-3.

The 29-22 Warriors had

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

5-23-05

A Moment to Remember

East Central players celebrate Marcus Davis' sixth inning home run against Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College. ***Photo by Marty Stamper.***

chances to further tighten up the game in the fifth and sixth frames, but stranded five runners.

"Things have to fall your way sometimes, and they didn't," Yarborough said. "We had opportunities and we just didn't get it done at the right time."

Warrior ace Josh Miller (11-3) took the loss, allowing six runs (one earned) on seven hits and five walks in six innings. He struck out five.

"I think we matched up with NEO on hits. We may have even had more extra base hits, but their defense made all the plays," Yarborough said. "You can look on the scoreboard and see the difference and that's the errors that were made."

NEO starter J.T. King (9-0) got the win.

Davis had two of EC's eight hits. NEO also had eight hits.

Maple Woods	**9**
ECCC	**4**

The Warriors led 4-2 through five innings, but the Centaurs got into the EC bullpen and scored six runs over the final three innings to take the win.

Davis put the Warriors up 1-0 in the first inning with a solo homer to right-center.

Maple Woods tied the game in the third when Nick Jaros singled, stole second, and scored on a wild pitch.

The 38-24 Centaurs took a 2-1 lead in the top of the fourth on a run-scoring infield hit by Chris Martin.

The Warriors made their biggest showing at the plate of the afternoon in the bottom of the fifth as they scored three times to take a 4-2 lead. Will Pearson and Ken Gordon started the inning with singles. Pearson scored when Wilson reached on an error and Davis followed with a two-run single.

An RBI single by Chris Redmon cut the lead to 4-3 in the sixth.

Kevin Hatch (4-2) came on in relief of Cody Savell in the

Continued on page 7A...
See Warriors...

5-23-05

Warriors...

Continued from page 6A...

top of the seventh and gave up a pair of runs without allowing a hit. He walked two, hit one, and was called for a balk. Michael Younghanz added a sacrifice fly.

"Kevin's our closer and he just couldn't find the strike zone," Yarborough said. "A bunch of times we've called on him to go out there and do it and he's done it. Today, he just couldn't find it. And we had some mistakes there. We just didn't have everything clicking for us."

In six innings, Savell allowed three runs (two earned) on eight hits. He struck out five and walked one.

Maple Woods struck for three more runs in the eighth. Jaros, who went 4-for-6, had an RBI single. Jon Cole came on in relief of Hatch and walked in another run.

Jaros doubled in the ninth and scored on one of EC's eight errors.

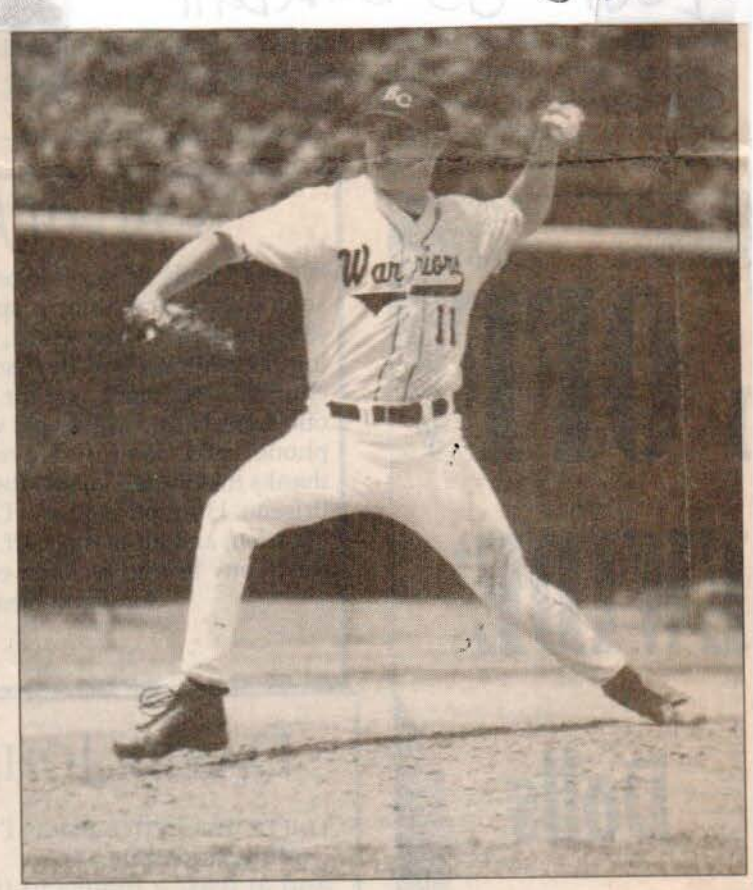
The Warriors had seven hits with Davis and Pearson both getting two.

Maple Woods had 11 hits. In addition to Jaros' four, Martin and Jake Blackwood had two each.

Maple Woods starter Tyler Lipscomb (7-2) got the win.

5-23-05

So Close
ECCC second baseman Joseph Cavenaugh, left, just missed beating out an infield hit as NEO first baseman Frank Vaughn (7) already has the ball on this fifth inning sacrifice bunt. *Photo by Marty Stamper.*



Lefty Delivers
ECCC sophomore Josh Miller fires to the plate against the Golden Norsemen of NEO. *Photo by Marty Stamper.*

Twin Killing
ECCC first baseman Corey Coward, left, tags out NEO's Noel Ahumada after catching a line drive for the first out on the unassisted double play. *Photo by Marty Stamper.*

WEEK OF 5-23-05

East Central Diamond Warriors sent home after one day

By Marty Stamper / staff writer

FORT SMITH, Ark. - East Central Community College's stay in the NJCAA South Central District Tournament was all too brief.

The Warriors lost 8-3 to Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College in Friday's tournament opener and were eliminated with a 9-4 loss to Maple Woods (Mo.) Community College in their second game.

The Warriors finished their season with a 29-23 record.

Uncharacteristically shoddy defense was the main culprit in the losses, as the Warriors committed six errors against NEO and eight against Maple Woods.

ing the day's opener.

Two errors in the third inning led to five unearned runs for NEO as a 1-0 Warrior advantage turned into a 5-1 deficit. NEO's big hit in the inning was a two-run triple by Noel Ahumada.

ECCC had taken a 1-0 lead in the top of the first inning as Davis hit a two-out single to center field and scored on another single to center by Corey Coward.

Carter McQuigg made it 6-1 with a sacrifice fly in the fourth.

The Warriors got their second run in the sixth as Davis led off with a solo homer in the right-field corner. It was his 11th of the year.

"You can look on the scoreboard and see the difference and that's the errors that were made."

NEO starter J.T. King (9-0) got the win.

Davis had two of ECCC's eight hits. NEO also had eight hits.

Maple Woods 9
ECCC 4

The Warriors led 4-2 through five innings, but the Centaurs got into the ECCC bullpen and scored six runs over the final three innings to take the win.

Davis put the Warriors up 1-0 in the first inning with a solo homer to right-center.

Maple Woods tied the game in the third when Nick Jaros singled, stole second, and scored on a wild pitch.

one.

Maple Woods struck for three more runs in the eight. Jaros, who went 4-for-6, had an RBI single. Jon Cole came on in relief of Hatch and walked in another run.

Jaros doubled in the ninth and scored on one of ECCC's eight errors.

The Warriors had seven hits with Davis and Pearson both getting two. Maple Woods had 11 hits. In addition to Jaros' four, Martin and Jake Blackwood had two each. Maple Woods starter Tyler Lipscomb (7-2) got the win.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER X
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓
UNION APPEAL
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL
SPIRIT OF MORTON
IMPACT

CARTHAGINIAN
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓
NEWTON RECORD ✓
MERIDIAN STAR ✓
CLARION-LEDGER

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"We just didn't execute defensively," ECCC head coach Jake Yarborough said. "You've got to be playing your best defensively when you're in a tournament like this, and we didn't.

"We fell short. This is probably the worst defensive day that we've had all year, and unfortunately, it came at this time. Defensively, we've been very strong this year. It's just that all of a sudden it hit us in one day. We just didn't execute."

Warrior sophomore center fielder Marcus Davis had a good showing, as he hit a home run in each game. For the day, he went 4-for-8 with four RBIs.

"Marcus is a good ballplayer," Yarborough said. "He's got a lot of ability and he played well today. He steps up when we need him to, and this was one of those days we needed him to be at his peak, and he was there.

"He's an incredible athlete. He'll have a chance to go on and play professional baseball. We expect him to go a long way in his career."

NEO 8
ECCC 3

The Golden Norsemen scored six unearned runs off six ECCC errors in tak-

The 42-19 Norsemen got that run back in the bottom of the inning as Nick Patterson reached on an error and scored on a two-out infield hit by Joseph Godinez.

ECCC got back-to-back doubles from Van Wilson and Taylor Petty in the top of the seventh to close to within 7-3.

The 29-22 Warriors had chances to further tighten up the game in the fifth and sixth frames, but stranded five runners.

"Things have to fall your way sometimes, and they didn't," Yarborough said. "We had opportunities, and we just didn't get it done at the right time."

Warrior ace Josh Miller (11-3) took the loss, allowing six runs (one earned) on seven hits and five walks in six innings. He struck out five.

"You've got to give credit to NEO," Yarborough said. "They were very selective with him. They didn't swing at a lot of pitches out of the zone. Josh left several pitches up, but he still pitched well enough if we didn't make the errors. We only gave up two earned runs.

"I think we matched up with NEO on hits. We may have even had more extra base hits, but their defense made all the plays.

The 38-24 Centaurs took a 2-1 lead in the top of the fourth on a run-scoring infield hit by Chris Martin.

The Warriors made their biggest showing at the plate of the afternoon in the bottom of the fifth as they scored three times to take a 4-2 lead. Will Pearson and Ken Gordon started the inning with singles. Pearson scored when Wilson reached on an error and Davis followed with a two-run single.

An RBI single by Chris Redmon cut the lead to 4-3 in the sixth.

Kevin Hatch (4-2) came on in relief of Cody Savell in the top of the seventh and gave up a pair of runs without allowing a hit. He walked two, hit one, and was called for a balk. Michael Younghanz added a sacrifice fly.

"Kevin's our closer and he just couldn't find the strike zone," Yarborough said. "A bunch of times we've called on him to go out there and do it and he's done it. Today, he just couldn't find it. And we had some mistakes there. We just didn't have everything clicking for us today."

In six innings, Savell allowed three runs (two earned) on eight hits. He struck out five and walked

WEEK OF 5-23-05

East Central Baseball Award Winners

Five members of the East Central Community College baseball team received awards following their return to Decatur from the NJCAA Division I South Central District Tournament at Fort Smith, Ark., last week. Josh Miller, seated at left, received the Most Outstanding Pitcher Award and was also named all-state and all-Region 23. Kevin Hatch, seated center, was named the Exemplary Player for 2005. Chris Pierce, seated right, was voted Best Defensive Player. Marcus Davis, standing left, was named the team's Most Valuable Player and Best Offensive Player. Davis was also selected to the all-state team. John Fortenberry, standing right, was named Most Improved. *Photo by Marty Stamper.*

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL X

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

5-23-05

Warriors run to first region crown

By Tony Krausz
sports editor

PERKINSTON — Josh Miller got even better after two days of rest.

The East Central Community College pitcher went eight strong innings in an 11-1 win over Mississippi Delta Community College in the Region XXIII Baseball Tournament championship game on Sunday.

Miller threw a complete game in the Warriors' tournament opening victory against host-team Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College on Thursday.

"It doesn't get any better than this," said Miller, who gave up one run on three hits with six strikeouts on Sunday. "It was a pretty day, and the odds were in our favor. We let the defense play, and we let out bats do the talking."

> *I'm very proud about the way our guys responded.*
>
> Warriors head coach Jake Yarborough

ECCC, which hasn't lost since the opening game of a doubleheader against Meridian Community College on April 19, didn't lose a game at Ken Curly Farris Field in capturing its first region title. MDCC needed to win two games on Sunday to win the regional tourney.

"I'm very proud about the way our guys responded," said ECCC head coach Jake Yarborough, whose team improved to 29-21. "Toward the end of the year, we talked about the only way to get into the playoff is to play well. As soon as we got in the playoffs, they took off."

ECCC took advantage of a tired MDCC squad early in Sunday's title game. The Warriors scored two runs in the first inning, two in the second and one in the third to take a 5-0 lead.

The Trojans (27-24) advanced to the title game by winning an 11-inning contest against Meridian Community College that ended at 12:13 a.m. Sunday.

"Delta has a great program, and they have a good coach (Tony Hancock) running their program," Yarborough said. "They had to be a little tired. They beat Meridian (Community College) twice, and Meridian was projected as the No. 1 seed in the tournament."

Corey Coward, who produced the game-winning hit against MDCC on Saturday in the semis, opened the scoring with a two-run double in the first inning.

The shot to left-center field brought home Van Wilson and Marcus Davis for a 2-0 lead after the first inning of play.

"It is always important to get out ahead in every game," Coward said. "It takes pressure off the defense and hitters."

The Warriors added two more runs to their lead in the bottom of the second inning. Wilson hit a sacrifice fly to bring home a run, and Chris Pierce scored on a passed ball for a 4-0 lead.

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www.meridianstar.com

WEEK OF 5-23-05

Warriors

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ECCC third baseman James Harris brought in another run with a two-out single that scored Davis for a 5-0 lead in the third inning.

Warriors left fielder Will Pearson drove in another run with a single in the sixth inning, and Pierce followed with a two-run single for an 8-0 lead.

MDCC scored one run in the top of the eight inning off an RBI triple into the right-field corner by Neal Henry. ECCC responded with three runs in the bottom of the eighth for a 10-run lead. The Warriors scored on a wild pitch, a fielder's choice and an error in the eighth.

"We hit the ball hard, and we got hits a lot of the time when runners were in scoring position," said Yarborough, who was named the Region XXIII Coach of the Year. "We executed well."

Warriors closer Kevin Hatch, who earned the win over the Trojans on Saturday in a winners' bracket game, closed the game. The right-hander struck out two batters and induced a game-ending line drive to Pierce at short-stop.

"I don't care what the score is, I never say it is over against (Delta)," Yarborough said. "It wasn't over until it was over."

Harris went 3-for-4 with two singles, a double and an RBI, and Pearson went 2-for-4 with two singles and an RBI. ECCC outhit MDCC 11-3.

The Warriors advanced to a Super Regional in Fort Smith, Ark., on May 20-22. ECCC will face the winners from Region II and XVI in the three-team tournament.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR X

CLARION-LEDGER _____

5-23-05

East Central players proud of 2005 campaign

By Marty Stamper
staff writer

FORT SMITH, Ark. — While they certainly would have liked to have performed better than they did in the NJCAA Division I South Central District Tournament, on Friday, the East Central Community College Warriors won't be all that heartbroken when they reflect back on their 2005 accomplishments.

The Warriors lost 8-3 to Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College and 9-4 to Maple Woods (Mo.) Community College in the district tournament. ECCC committed 14 errors in the two games. Six of NEO's runs were unearned.

As far as wins, the 29-23 record this spring ties the 1992 (29-19) and 1993 (29-15) ECCC teams for fifth-highest in school history. The 29 wins lag well behind the 40-18 school record set by the 1997 team and trail the 32-22 mark held by the 1998 state championship team.

But the current squad managed to pull off a feat that none of the previous Warrior baseball teams accomplished — win a region championship.

Sophomore center fielder Marcus Davis put on a power show Friday, as he homered in each game and went 4-for-8 for the day with four RBIs.

> *I was really glad we had something record-setting for this school, something this school has never done.*
>
> **ECCC pitcher Kevin Hatch**

"I had a pretty good day," said Davis, who was named team Most Valuable Player and Best Offensive Player. "We lost, so that's still a big blow to me.

"If we could have taken back some of the errors we made, I think the outcome would have been a little different. I think we could have beat both of those teams. Not taking anything away from them because they were good teams, but I think if we had made some defensive plays, that would have changed the outcome of the games.

"We started out our year on fire, then we started slipping toward the middle. Then we picked it up toward the end and ended up finishing with a winning record, and that's always good to finish with a winning record."

Especially when your team went 12-29 the previous spring and wasn't high on the list of possible region championship contenders coming into this year.

"It was a great season and record setting for this school, as far as going to the regional and winning it and going on and representing the state of Mississippi," said sophomore pitcher Josh Miller, whose 11-3 mark earned team Most Outstanding Pitcher honors.

"I was pretty thrilled with my season," said sophomore pitcher Kevin Hatch, who was voted ECCC's Exemplary Player for 2005. "I had a lot better season than I had last year.

"I was really glad we had something record-setting for this school, something this school has never done. I was really proud of the whole team."

"It was a great season," said freshman shortstop Chris Pierce, who was named ECCC's Best Defensive Player. "We had a lot of achievements throughout the year. A couple of players were named all-state and winning the region was huge for this school. It's an experience all of us enjoyed."

Redshirt freshman pitcher John Fortenberry was scheduled to start a third game in the district tournament if the Warriors got that

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Page B3

5-23-05

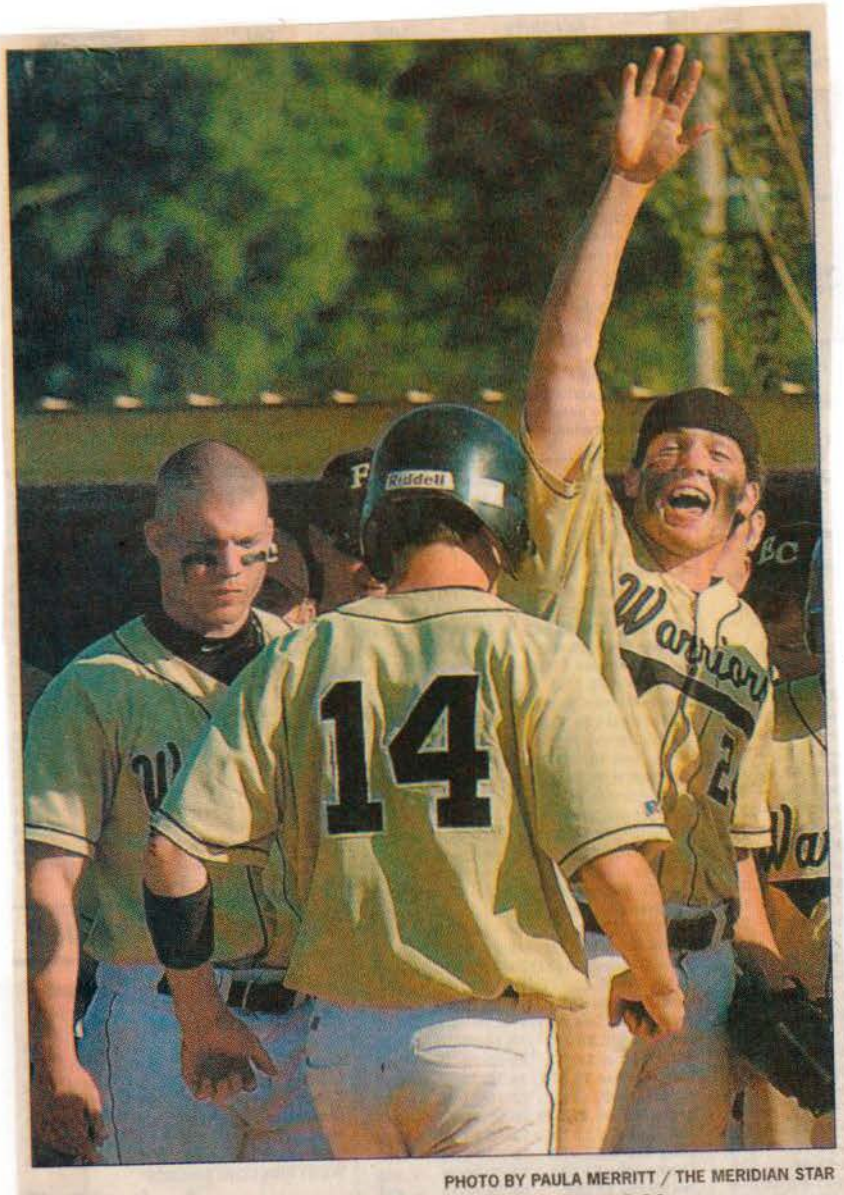

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

RISING TO THE OCCASION

East Central Community College freshman Taylor Petty (14) arrives at home plate after hitting a home run earlier this season. ECCC's season ended on Friday at the Fort Smith, Ark., Super Regional tournament. The Warriors finished with a 29-23 record.

WEEK OF 5-23-05

ECCC

From Page B1

far. When it was obvious they wouldn't, he tossed the ninth inning against Maple Woods. He struck out three batters, although one reached on a passed ball.

Fortenberry impressed several NEO players and fans when they discovered the reason he was a wearing a helmet after losing an eye after being struck in the face by a line drive in January of 2004.

"I'm glad how we did this season," said Fortenberry, who was named ECCC's Most Improved Player. "I've just got next year to come back and look forward to. I hope to get all these freshmen back. That would be really good."

Next year, all 15 of the MACJC teams will be competing in Division II.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WEEK OF 5-23-05

Warriors reflect on 2005 season

by Marty Stamper

The long ride back from Fort Smith, Ark., gave the members of the East Central Community College baseball team plenty of time to think of what might have been as well as reflect on what they had accomplished this spring.

The Warriors lost 8-3 to Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College and 9-4 to Maple Woods (Mo.) Community College in the district tournament on Friday. EC committed 14 errors in the two games.

In going 29-23 in 2005, the Warriors' win total ties for the fifth highest in school history.

But the current squad managed to pull off a feat that none of the previous Warrior baseball teams could accomplish — win a region championship.

Sophomore center fielder Marcus Davis put on a power show Friday as he homered in each game and went 4-for-8 for with four RBIs.

"I had a pretty good day," said Davis, who was named team Most Valuable Player and Best Offensive Player. "We lost, so that's still a big blow to me.

"If we could have taken back some of the errors we made, I think the outcome would have been a little different. I think we could have beat both of those teams. Not taking anything away from them because they were good teams, but I think if we had made some defensive plays, that would have changed the outcome of the games.

"We started out our year on fire, then we started slipping toward the middle. Then we picked it up toward the end and ended up finishing with a winning record, and that's always good to finish with a winning record."

Especially when your team had a dismal 12-29 showing the previous year and wasn't expected to do a whole lot better this time around.

"It was a great season and record setting for this school, as far as going to the regional and winning it and going on and representing the state of Mississippi," said sophomore pitcher Josh Miller, whose 11-3 mark earned team Most Outstanding Pitcher honors.

"I was pretty thrilled with my season," said sophomore pitcher Kevin Hatch, who was voted EC's Exemplary Player for 2005. "I had a lot better season than I had last year.

"I was really glad we had something record-setting for this school, something this school has never done. I was really proud of the whole team."

"It was a great season," said freshman shortstop Chris Pierce, who was named EC's Best Defensive Player. "We had a lot of achievements throughout the year. A couple of players were named all-state and winning the region was huge for this school. It's an experience all of us enjoyed."

Redshirt freshman pitcher John Fortenberry was scheduled to start a third game in the district tournament if the Warriors got that far. When it was obvious they wouldn't, he tossed the ninth inning against Maple Woods. He struck out three batters, although one reached on a passed ball.

"I'm glad how we did this season," said Fortenberry, who was named EC's Most Improved Player after missing the entire 2004 season as the result of losing his right eye after being struck in the face with a line drive. "I've just got next year to come back and look forward to. I hope to get all these freshmen back. That would be really good."

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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WEEK OF 6-13-05

ECCC Diamond Warriors add three signees for 2006

from school reports

East Central Community College has signed three more baseball players for the 2006 season, announced ECCC head baseball coach Jake Yarborough.

The latest signees are Cade Savant, a 6-foot-1, 220-pound right-handed pitcher/first baseman from Abbeville, La.; Sean Thompson, a 6-foot, 160-pound right-handed pitcher/infielder, from Junction City, Ark.; and Kevin Duckworth, a south-paw hurler from Petal High School.

Savant, a former standout at North Vermilion High School, went 3-1 on the mound during his injury-plagued senior season, posting a 2.36 earned run average. He also batted .367 with four home runs.

He was named to the All-State, All-Parish, All-District and All-Acadiana teams following the 2005 campaign.

He batted .400 his junior year with six home runs.

Thompson, a former standout at Junction City High School, went 14-3 on the mound in 2005 with a 2.75 earned run average and led Junction City to the state semifinals.

His post-season honors include being named to the All-Region, All-State, All-District and All-Star teams.

Thompson posted a 9-2 record in 2004 with a 2.38 ERA and helped lead Junction City to the 2004 state championship and a 28-9 overall record. He also batted .361 with two home runs, two triples, 10 doubles and 31 RBIs.

Thompson received his team's most valuable player award and was presented MVP honors in the Outlaw Classic in Dierks, Ark.; and the Arkansas State Class AA Championship.

Duckworth went 9-3 on the mound during 2005, posting a 1.56 ERA for the Panthers, who advanced to the state finals en route to a 30-8 record. He also fanned 105 batters.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER		CARTHAGINIAN	
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES		NESHOBA DEMOCRAT	
UNION APPEAL	X	NEWTON RECORD	
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL		MERIDIAN STAR	
SPIRIT OF MORTON		CLARION-LEDGER	
IMPACT			

WEEK OF 6-13-05

EC adds trio of pitchers

from combined reports

Fresh off a Region 23 championship, East Central Community College head baseball coach Jake Yarborough has been busy on the recruiting trail in an attempt to reload for next season.

Yarborough has announced three signees in the last week for the Diamond Warriors, all three of which could see action on the mound when they arrive at ECCC.

Two of the new players are from out of state — Sean Thompson of Junction City, Ark., and Cade Savant of North Vermil-

See **ECCC**, Page 2B

ECCC

From Page 1B

ion (La.) High School — while the other, Kevin Duckworth, prepped at Petal High School.

Duckworth signed his national letter-of-intent last week with the Warriors after posting a 9-3 record at Petal this past spring. The southpaw posted a spectacular earned-run average of 1.56 and struck out 105 batters for the Panthers, who went 30-8 and advanced to the Class 5A state championship.

Savant, a 6-foot-1, 220-pound right-handed pitcher and first baseman from Abbeville, La., was 3-1 on the hill with a 2.36 ERA. At the plate, he hit .367 with four home runs, picking up all-state honors in the process.

Savant, who hit .400 with six homers during his junior season, also picked up All-Parish, All-District and All-Acadiana teams following his 2005 campaign.

Thompson, a 6-foot, 160-pound right-handed pitcher and infielder, was 14-3 on the mound with a 2.75 ERA as he led Junction City to the Arkansas state semifinals.

Thompson's postseason honors included being named to the All-State, All-Region, All-District and All-Star teams. As a junior, he was 9-2 on the mound with a 2.38 ERA and helped lead his squad to the 2004 state championship.

In picking up his team's Most Valuable Player honors, Thompson also hit .361 with a couple of home runs, 10 doubles and 31 RBIs; and he was the MVP in the Outlaw Classic in Dierks, Ark., as well as the Arkansas Class AA State Championship.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

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WEEK OF 6-13-05

Petal Pitcher Joins ECCC Diamond Warriors

DECATUR--Former Petal High School southpaw hurler Kevin Duckworth has signed a national letter of intent with East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC head baseball coach Jake Yarborough.

Duckworth went 9-3 on the mound during 2005, posting a 1.56 earned run average for the Diamond Panthers who advanced to the state finals en route to a 30-8 record. He also fanned 105 batters.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER X

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

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WEEK OF 6-13-05

Arkansas Hurler Joins ECCC Diamond Warriors

Sean Thompson, a former baseball standout at Junction City High School in Junction City, Ark., has signed a national letter of intent with East Central Community College in Decatur, Miss. Thompson, a 6', 160-pound right-handed pitcher/infielder, went 14-3 on the mound in 2005 with a 2.75 earned run average and led Junction City to the state semi-finals. His post-season honors include being named to the All-Region, All-State, All-District and All-Star teams. Thompson posted a 9-2 record in 2004 with a 2.38 ERA and helped lead Junction City to the 2004 state championship and a 28-9 overall record. He also batted .361 with two home runs, two triples, 10 doubles and 31 RBIs. He received his team's most valuable player award and was presented MVP honors in the Outlaw Classic in Dierks, Ark., and the Arkansas State AA Championship. The new Diamond Warrior is pictured during a recent signing ceremony at ECCC with his parents, Angel and Kevin Thompson of Junction City, and ECCC head baseball coach Jake Yarborough (standing). East Central won the 2005 Region 23 championship en route to a 29-23 record. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER	X	CARTHAGINIAN	
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES		NESHOBA DEMOCRAT	
UNION APPEAL		NEWTON RECORD	
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL		MERIDIAN STAR	
SPIRIT OF MORTON	X	CLARION-LEDGER	
IMPACT			

WEEK OF 08-15-05

EC's Yarborough gets national award

■ Leading the East Central Community College baseball program to its first Region 23 title has resulted in a national honor for Diamond Warrior head coach Jake Yarborough.

Yarbrough

Yarborough, who earlier was named NJCAA Division 1 Region 23 Coach of the Year following his 2005 squad's successful season, was recently notified by letter that he has been selected American Baseball Coaches Association/Diamond Sports Company NJCAA Division 1 Region 23 Coach of the Year.

Yarborough will receive the award during the ABCA National Convention in Chicago, Jan. 5-8, 2006. The award ceremony takes place on Friday, Jan. 6 at the Hall of Fame/Coach of the Year Banquet at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

"We had a great bunch of kids on the team who worked very hard all year. I certainly give credit to them and my assistant (Dusty Hillman) for our success," Yarborough said.

The Diamond Warriors, who advanced to the NJCAA Super Regional after winning the Region 23 title, finished the season with a 29-23 record.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER		CARTHAGINIAN	
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES		NESHOBA DEMOCRAT	
UNION APPEAL	X	NEWTON RECORD	X
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL		MERIDIAN STAR	X
SPIRIT OF MORTON		CLARION-LEDGER	X
IMPACT			

WEEK OF 08-15-05

Former ECCC baseball players continue careers at 4-year schools

from school reports

After helping lead East Central Community College to its first Region 23 baseball title and NJCAA Super Regional appearance, several members of the 2005 squad are hoping to continue their success at various four-year colleges and universities.

Outfielder Marcus Davis of Magee, who led Warrior sluggers with a .322 batting average, has signed with Alcorn State University. Davis, an all-state selection, also led the Diamond Warriors in home runs (12) and RBIs (32). In addition, he had a triple and three doubles. He was selected the Diamond Warriors' Most Valuable Player and received the Best Offensive Player award.

Continuing his career at Mississippi Valley State University is outfielder Van Wilson of Collinsville, a product of West Lauderdale High School. Wilson batted .279 and had four homers, three triples, nine doubles and 21 RBIs.

First baseman Corey Coward of Noxapater has joined the University of West Alabama squad. Coward batted .299 with two home runs, a triple, eight doubles and 33 RBIs.

Joining the Jacksonville State (Ala.) University baseball team is southpaw hurler Josh Miller of Elysian Fields, Texas. Miller went 11-3 on the mound and posted a 2.03 earned run average. He fanned 90 batters. He was named to the All-Region 23 and all-state teams and was selected the Diamond Warriors' most outstanding pitcher.

Shortstop Joseph Cavenaugh of Decatur is now a member of the Belhaven College baseball team. Cavenaugh batted .218 and had four doubles, a triple and 15 RBIs.

Right-handed pitcher Cody Savell of Newton is continuing his career at Delta State University. Savell posted a 5-6 mark and had a 3.87 earned run average. He struck out 64 batters.

Second baseman Chris Pierce of Petal has transferred to William Carey College following a one-year stint on the Decatur campus. Pierce batted .242 and had one home run, four doubles and 17 RBIs.

The 2005 Diamond Warriors, led by fourth-year head coach Jake Yarborough, completed the season with a 29-23 record.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL X

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

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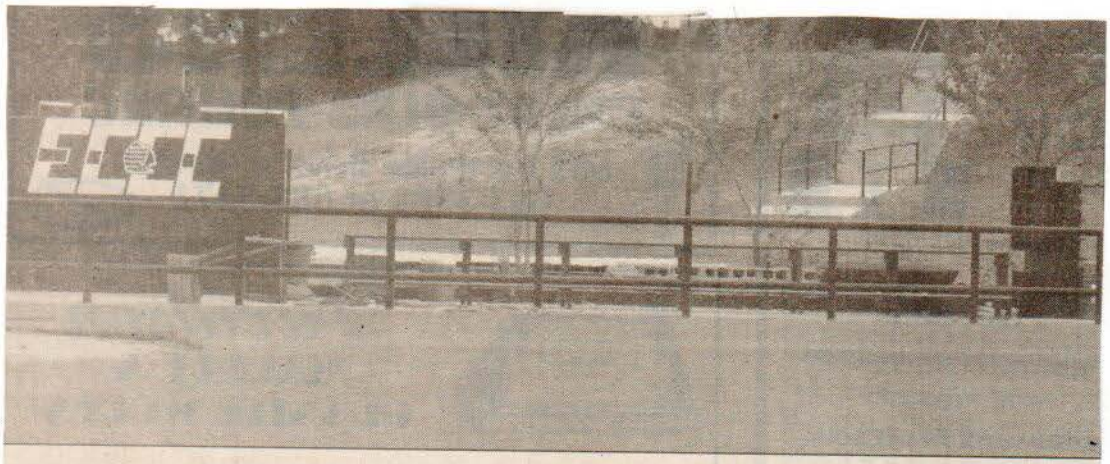
CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 9-05-05



ECCC Baseball Dugouts Gone

The home dugout at East Central Community College's Jamie Clark Memorial Baseball Stadium was totally destroyed, leaving only the equipment room standing at left. Hurricane Katrina showed no favoritism, wiping out the visitors' dugout as well. The stands and press box fared much better.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL X

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

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WEEK OF 10/03/05

On display

These graduating sophomore members of the 2005 Region 23, Division 1 championship East Central Community College baseball team display rings received during a ceremony held recently on the Decatur campus. From left are southpaw hurler Josh Miller of Elysian Fields, Texas; outfielder Van Wilson of West Lauderdale; right-handed pitcher Cody Savell of Newton; catcher/first baseman Corey Coward of Noxapater; infielder Joseph Cavenaugh of Newton County; and right-handed pitcher/outfielder Andre Coleman of Louisville. Head coach Jake Yarborough and assistant Dusty Hillman presented rings, team photos and other memorabilia to squad members during the special program. The Diamond Warriors, who advanced to the NJCAA Super Regional after winning the Region 23 Division 1 title, finished the season with a 29-23 record. Yaborough received Coach of the Year honors following the successful campaign.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

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WEEK OF 11/28/05

Alumni Diamond Warriors Reunite

These former East Central Community College baseball players put on their Diamond Warrior uniforms one more time as they participated in an alumni game held in conjunction with homecoming activities on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Matthew Boggan (Class of 2005), Hal Thompson (Class of 2001), Robby Carey (Class of 2004), Lewis Bradford (Class of 2002), and Larkin Chapman (Class of 1977). Kneeling are Gregg Warren (Class of 1988), ECCC head baseball coach Jake Yarborough (Class of 1992), Fabian Huddleston (Class of 1992), Scott Hill (Class of 1989), Dusty Hillman, ECCC assistant baseball coach; and Jonathan Sigrest (Class of 2004). Standing are Ricky Harrison (Class of 1978), Marcus Thames (Attended 1996-97), a current member of the Detroit Tigers organization; Jason Willis (Class of 1999), Gene Davis (Attended 1970-71), and Drew Kenna (Class of 2004).

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER	CARTHAGINIAN
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES	NESHOBA DEMOCRAT
UNION APPEAL X	NEWTON RECORD
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL	MERIDIAN STAR
SPIRIT OF MORTON	CLARION-LEDGER
IMPACT	

WEEK OF Jan 31

EC Instructors to hold art show, organ recital

Special to The Record

The Division of Fine Arts at East Central Community College in Decatur will present an exhibition by art instructor Bruce Guraedy and an organ recital by music keyboard instructor Len Bobo at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 3 in the Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium.

There is no charge to attend and the public is invited. A reception will be held immediately following the organ recital.

The Guraedy exhibit will consist of 12 to 20 works mostly of landscapes around the east central area of Mississippi as well as New Mexico, Texas, Colorado and Montana.

"I've used a whole host of mediums for expression which include oils, watercolor, pastels, pencil, pen and ink, ink wash, and mixed media," Guraedy said. "These are real places I've visited over 30 years and have attempted to express myself with color and mood."

Bobo's program is titled "Bach in First Person."

"The program will feature a brief narration on the life of Bach, a most creative composer genius," Bobo said. "The beginning of the program will feature four of Bach's compositions and the second half of the program will feature four works by composers influenced by Bach."

For more information phone 635-2111, ext. 229 (Guraedy) or 227 (Bobo).

EC PHOTO

East Central Community College instructors Bruce Guraedy (right) and Len Bobo (left) will present an art exhibit and organ recital, respectively, on Thursday, February 3, at 7 p.m. in the Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium on the Decatur campus. The public is invited and there is no charge to attend.

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

IMPACT ____

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ECCC Serves As Site For Defensive Driving Course

DECATUR--Teenagers as well as adults who receive traffic tickets can have those violations removed from their records by taking a Defensive Driving Course held at East Central Community College in Decatur. The award-winning course was developed by the National Safety Council and is provided by Mississippi Safety Services. Classes are held once a month on Thursdays from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. in Newton Hall, Room 60. The next class is scheduled Thursday, February 10. Additional classes are scheduled March 10, April 14, May 12 and June 9. Cost to take the class is $35. Billy Robertson of Philadelphia, who serves as class instructor, said "accident prevention" is the main focus of the four-hour course, which includes a video presentation. "We teach awareness, safety and provide information on what drivers are responsible for while behind the steering wheel. We also talk about the number of people injured and killed each year in traffic accidents and how alcohol and drugs affect driving ability," said Robertson, who serves as fleet safety officer for the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians and teaches defensive driving courses on the Reservation. In addition, Robertson said he discusses emergency maneuvers such as dealing with a skid, avoiding a head-on collision and how to get the best use from anti-lock brakes. He points out how dangerous 3,000 pounds of glass, rubber and steel is going down the road." "That's basically what a vehicle is 3,000 pounds of glass, rubber and steel," he reiterated. "And if you have an irresponsible driver behind the steering wheel, there's no telling what that car is going to do. We have to look out for the other drivers on the road with us." Robertson said he also stresses the importance of "staying within the speed limit" during his presentation. "Speeding is the number one cause of collisions," he noted, "and for drivers age 15-24, speeding is the leading cause for collisions and death," a fact that gets the attention of class participants, he says, most of whom fall into that age category. "We get some interesting looks when I mention that fact, especially when the discussion is about how alcohol and drugs affect people when they are operating a vehicle. Robertson said discussions about cell phone use are also included in his presentation. "We get some interesting conversations on cell phone use a lot of positives, a lot of negatives and some think it just does not matter. The state law does not say anything about cell phone use while operating a vehicle. What Mississippi law says is anything that distracts a person while operating a vehicle is against the law, and we try to make students aware of that fact," he stated. "And that's some of the basic things we discuss in teaching the class," Robertson explained. "It's very important for people operating a vehicle to know what their responsibilities are and what they should or should not be doing when they've got the steering wheel in their hands." Robertson said traffic violators under age 21 who complete the four-hour course can have the violation removed from their record and the fine is waived as well. Those over 21 who take the class still have to pay the fine but the violation is not included on their record. The Defensive Driving Course is used nationwide for approximately 1.5 million drivers each year. Older drivers, age 55 and older, may also take the course and receive a discount on their auto insurance premiums. Employers also use the course for employees who utilize company vehicles, and parents opt to have their teens take the class to be better prepared for the hazards of driving. "This is life-saving information for drivers of all ages," said Kay Brodbeck, executive director of Mississippi Safety Services, which provides the class in nearly 60 locations throughout the state. "Mississippi has the highest traffic death rate in the nation and most crashes are preventable when the driver uses the right strategies. It's especially sad that Mississippi has the highest rate of spinal cord injuries due to traffic crashes. This class is protection for everyone." For more information, call Mississippi Safety Services, Phone 601-924-7815 or call toll free, 1-800-257-2338.

Defensive Driving Class instructor Billy Robertson of Philadelphia explains the four R's (Read, Right, Reduce and Ride) during a recent class meeting held on the East Central Community College campus in Decatur. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Feb 14

Black History Month Program Planned February 23 at ECCC

Elder James A. Young of Philadelphia will serve as keynote speaker for the annual Black History Month program scheduled at 7 p.m. Wednesday, February 23 at East Central Community College in Decatur.

The ECCC Gospel Choir will provide special music for the event, which will be held in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. Brenda K. Johnson serves as choir sponsor.

Young is pastor of Calvary Apostolic Church in Louisville. He also serves as District Five Supervisor in Neshoba County. In addition, he is a member of the Board of Directors for the East Central Planning and Development District. He is an active member of the NAACP and Community in Action, which promotes community involvement. Under his leadership, his church has sponsored and built two rural health clinics in DeKalb and Louisville.

He is a 1973 graduate of Neshoba Central High School. He also attended Meridian Community College, where he received certification in Pre-Hospital Emergency Care. He later attended University Medical Center in Jackson and received certification in Emergency Medicine/EMT Paramedic. He served as director of the Neshoba General Hospital EMS Department for 16 years and is a former instructor of EMT Basics at East Central Community College.

Young and his wife Sheryl have a daughter, Shanda Young, a graduate of Mississippi State University.

For more information regarding the Black History Program, contact Brenda K. Johnson at ECCC, Phone 635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 255.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ✓

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UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

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NEWTON RECORD

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF Feb 21

ECCC Workforce Development Center Staff

Above are members of the East Central Community College's Workforce Development Staff whose mission is "to support businesses, industries and communities with assessment, training, job placement, consultation and educational services designed to improve the economy by enhancing the capabilities of citizens in the ECCC district." Front row, from left, are Roger Whitlock, Center Director; Blake Warren, Productivity Enhancement Lab Trainer; Kay McLeod, Dislocated Worker Program Coordinator; and Tina Harris, Basic Skills Specialist. Back row, from left, are Joe Renaud, Personal Development Specialist; Chris Clark, Workforce Development Coordinator; Chris Harris, Work-Based Learning Coordinator; and Ronald B. Westbrook, Director, Small Business Development Center. For more information contact the ECCC Workforce Development Center, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone 635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 299. (EC Photo)

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By Bubby Johnston

special to The star

Sgt. Kelly Cluff of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve says his unit's deployment to Iraq "is not a negative thing."

In fact, before he left in January, the East Central Community College computer network technology instructor said he was looking forward to serving his country in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"As a Christian, I believe that God has a mission for me and my family," Cluff said.

"I do not see going to Iraq as a negative thing. I view my mission as an opportunity to experience a foreign country, new customs, a different language, the Iraqi people — especially the Iraqi children — and to bond with my fellow Marines.

"I believe that God has a different mission for me. As a Sunday school teacher and educational instructor, what better way to experience a very different culture from ours than doing so by also serving my country? I have the chance to learn and experience something new that most people do not have the opportunity to experience."

Even so, being away from his family for a year or more will take a toll.

"It will be difficult, for sure, to be away from my family for such a long period of time. I am very blessed with the family I have. God sent three miracles to me — my wife, the former Carla Jacome, and my two daughters, Emily, 11, and Katherine, 10. I love them very much and will do anything to keep them safe," Cluff said.

"My girls, as I call them, know what I have to do and they accept that by sacrificing their own needs so Daddy can help other kids in Iraq."

The girls knew Cluff might have to serve the United States in dangerous missions. They knew he might have to go to Iraq.

"But they also know that I'm proud to represent my country in a military branch I feel close to. Soldiers in all military branches have sacrificed their lives for the United States and for other foreign countries for the cause of freedom," Cluff said.

"We, as American people, tend to forget about the sacrifices on a daily basis. We take it for granted that we can walk, talk and do things without having a suppressive government watching us all the time."

Bubby Johnston is vice president for public information at East Central Community College in Decatur, where he has worked since 1987. He is a former editor of The Scott County Times in Forest, a weekly newspaper previously owned by his late father, Erle Johnston.

Johnston

His story is about Sgt. Kelly Cluff of Hickory, a computer network technology instructor at ECCC and a sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve.

Kelly is a member of Echo Battery, 2nd Battalion, 14th Marines, headquartered in Jackson. The unit was activated Jan. 4, and Kelly left Jan. 7 for training in California. He is scheduled to arrive in Iraq in early March.

"I admire him for his positive attitude," Bubby said. "I have a great deal of respect for Kelly, as well as all the men and women serving our country."

Bubby himself has two nephews in the U.S. Army National Guard. One recently returned from Kuwait, and the other is serving in Iraq now.

U.S. MARINE CORPS RESERVE

Kelly Cluff and his family moved from Anchorage, Alaska, to Newton, Miss., in 1998. He started taking classes and East Central Community College and joined the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve during his sophomore year. Cluff graduated in 2001, and started his own computer consulting firm in 200 he same year he went to work as an instructor at ECCC.

WEEK OF March 7

SUBMITTED PHOTO

ECCC HONORS

A resolution and plaque commemorating the service of longtime East Central Community College Board of Trustees member Silas O'Neal of Carthage was presented to family members at the February board meeting. Board Chairman Prentice Copeland, left, of Philadelphia is shown making the presentation to O'Neal's widow, Helen McIntosh O'Neal, and their daughter, Dr. Kimsey O'Neal Cooper, both of Carthage. O'Neal served 16 years as a trustee prior to his death in December 2004. Dr. Cooper was named to succeed her father on the ECCC board. Also pictured is ECCC President Phil Sutphin.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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March 7

ECCC's annual expo scheduled April 14

Jobs, jobs and more jobs will be on the minds of East Central Community College students when the College hosts its fifth annual Business, Education and Healthcare Expo Thursday, April 14, on the Decatur campus.

The public is also invited to attend the free event, which is scheduled from 9 to 11:30 a.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Approximately 65 vendors are expected to participate in this year's Expo, according to committee chairman Chris Harris who serves as the College's Work-Based Learning Coordinator.

"We are once again very pleased with the response we have received from the various vendors and are looking forward to another successful event," Harris said.

"Our students have expressed how much they enjoy meeting the various vendors and learning more about the employment, educational and military opportunities available throughout Mississippi.

"The vendors have also indicated how much they have been pleased with our students. So this event is obviously a win-win situation for all concerned."

Harris said approximately 500 students and several off-campus visitors attended the 2004 Expo, and he expects an even larger crowd this year.

"Many East Central students received jobs as a result of last year's Expo, and several made decisions on where they wanted to continue their education. We certainly expect another great turnout from our student body for this year's event," Harris said.

Vendors who have already committed to participate in the 2005 Expo include Baptist Health Systems, Alzheimer's Association,

Mississippi State University Agriculture Department, HMP Nursing Services, Inc., Care Center of Louisville, Central Mississippi Medical Center,

Central Mississippi Residential Center, Delta State University, Rankin Medical Center, Mississippi State University ROTC,

Primerica, Forrest General Hospital, Tower Loan Corporation, U.S. Navy, University Medical Center School of Nursing, University Hospitals and Clinics,

University of West Alabama, University of Southern Mississippi School of Nursing, ESCO Corporation, Jackson State University Office of Marketing and Recruitment,

Lackey Memorial Hospital, La-Z-Boy South, Millsaps College, Mississippi Air National Guard, Mississippi College, Mississippi Valley State University,

Mississippi State Hospital, Mississippi State University, MSU-Meridian, Mississippi University for Women, River Oaks Health System,

Rush Health System, Scott Regional Hospital, St. Dominic Hospital and Sta-Home Health Agency.

There is no charge for vendors to reserve space.

For more information contact Chris Harris, Expo Committee Chairman, East Central Community College, P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, or telephone 635-2111 or toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 305.

The email address is charris@eccc.edu.

LAKE MESSENGER ✓
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓
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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT
NEWTON RECORD ✓
MERIDIAN STAR
CLARION-LEDGER
Business Journal ✓

WEEK OF March 14

ECCC Coaches 'Pied' for Cancer! ~ "Why did we do this?" is probably what East Central Community College coaches Terry Underwood (left) and Jake Yarborough said to each other after they were "pied" in the face by their wives during halftime activities of the Warrior's season-ending basketball game with Meridian Community College. The two coaches were good sports throughout the event and more importantly helped raise almost $230 for the American Cancer Society. Money was collected during the basketball games and the coach with the most funds was designated as the one to receive a pie in the face thrown by his wife. However, the amount collected was so close that pies were "presented" to both!

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF March 28

Outstanding ECCC Instructor, Student Honored: ECCC social studies/history instructor Phillip Crenshaw (seated third from left) of Meridian and sophomore associate degree nursing major Jodi Partridge (seated center) of Philadelphia were among outstanding faculty members and students representing Mississippi's public and private universities and colleges who were honored by the Mississippi Legislature during the 18th annual HEADWAE Program. Also pictured with the honorees are ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin (seated left), and (standing from left) State Rep. Gale Gregory of Louisville, honoree spouses Sean Partridge and Kim Crenshaw, and Rep. Scott Bounds of Philadelphia.

APPEARED IN:

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ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central President Dr. Phil Sutphin stands in front of the college's sign earlier this week. Sutphin was named The Newton Record's Citizen of The Year for 2005.

ECCC president delivers growth, commitment to the community

By Robbie Robertson
The Newton Record

You can find out everything you need to know about East Central Community College president Dr. Phil Sutphin by looking at his car tag GO2ECCC.

Sutphin is in his fifth year as president of the Decatur school. And during that time, Sutphin has established himself as a proven administrator and community leader.

And now he can add The Newton Record's Citizen of the Year Award to his long list of accomplishments.

Growth

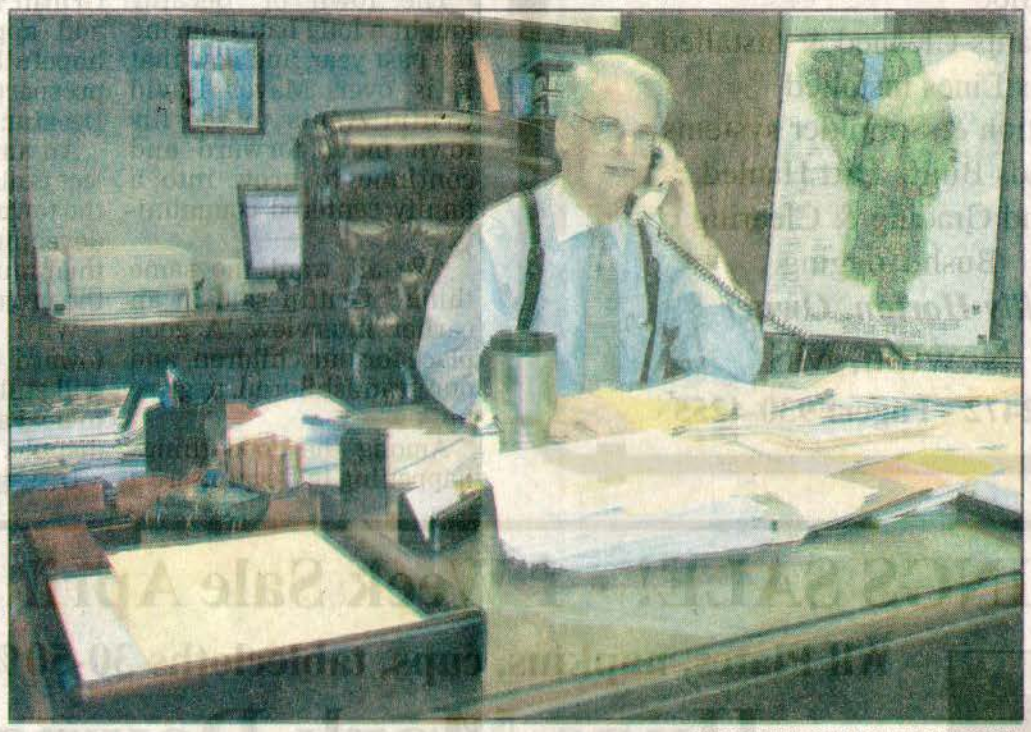
As president at East Central, Sutphin has compiled one of the longest winning streaks around. The school has posted a record enrollment for the 20th straight season. In 1985 when former president Dr. Eddie Smith started the college's recruitment program, enrollment was at 819. Enrollment this past fall was at 2,739 students. Since Sutphin took over in 2000, enrollment has grown more than 300 students.

"Growth, that's just what we do," Sutphin said with a huge grin on his face. "It's expected."

Sutphin gave a majority of the credit for the school's growth to Joe Killens, who heads the school's recruitment program.

"Joe and his staff do a great job," Sutphin said. "You have to get out to the high schools and let the students know who you are. But recently, our biggest growth has been in the non-traditional students."

Sutphin also says that part of East Central's growth is part of the state's overall growth in the community colleges.



ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central Community College President Phil Sutphin sits at his desk and checks on the budget situation at the state Legislature.

"It's not just us, everybody has seen growth," Sutphin said. "I think people are seeing us as a viable alternative. I'm not saying everybody in the state has seen our kind of growth but we are part of an overall growth in the community colleges."

Tough times

While the college has enjoyed the fruits of growth, it has also suffered from the sting of a weak economy and continued funding problems from the state Legislature. Now Sutphin spends plenty of time in Jackson with other community college presidents lobbying the Legislature and keeping an eye on his funding.

"My first year was really the last good year in terms of the budget," Sutphin said. "Since then, we've had to deal with budget cuts from the Legislature every year."

But during that time, Sutphin said the school hasn't let a single employee go but has kept a few positions open.

"When you only have one Physics teacher, you can't eliminate that position, you have to offer Physics," he said. "But we have a good number of adjunct faculty and most of our full-time professors teach overload classes."

And while other managers might be looking for areas to trim, Sutphin see every position as valuable.

"All the way up from groundskeeping, everybody on this campus has a valuable job on this campus," Sutphin said. "Just take groundskeeping. Others might say you can cut some of those positions. But in my mind, those are some of our most valuable employees. You only get one chance to make a first impression to prospective students. And what's the first thing they see at the school, the grounds."

In the community

While it's tough enough to run a college, Sutphin finds time in his schedule for a variety of community services.

He's immediate past president of the Decatur Chamber of Commerce and sits on the boards of the Newton County Tourism Council and Habitat for Humanity. He also helped with the group put together to honor Medger Evers and is part of Newton County's ongoing strategic planning process.

"Sometimes it's hard but you have to make priorities," Sutphin said. "Sometimes it's an 8-5 day and other times it's a 7-10 day."

But more importantly than the civic aspect of serving on various boards, Sutphin said it's simply just part of his job.

"This job is about promoting this college and protecting the mission of the institution," Sutphin said. "Everything you do and every decision you make as how you serve is based on that."

WEEK OF March 28

EC sees record enrollment, student honors, campus improvements

housed in archives. In addition, the College's display of Alumni Association award recipients is included in the project, which is funded mostly through private donations that now total more than $20,000. Tax-deductible contributions for the Memorabilia Room may be sent to the Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations.

A project recently completed on the College's South Campus is the renovation of two classrooms in the Frank Rives Educational Building. The additional classroom space is being utilized to help accommodate the College's increasing enrollment.

The Rives Building is part of the old Newton County High School the College purchased several years ago for classroom and office space. The building houses the Mathematics and Computer Science Division, and the Practical Nursing and Emergency Medical Technician programs.

Although much is happening with the growth of ECCC, Dr. Sutphin said there are still several major physical needs yet to be met. At the top of the list are a new science building and a new band hall.

"Because of our reliance on State bond issues for monies to construct major facilities such as the Eddie M. Smith Student Union, we are always behind in meeting our facility needs. The College desperately needs a new science building with expanded capacity for lecture and labs. As enrollment increases, the need for class sections increases, but the available facilities for those classes are not keeping up at the same pace," Dr. Sutphin said. "Another significant need," he added, "is a band hall for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band. The existing facility is just not adequate to meet the needs of the current band program. A new band hall would meet those needs and also expand the space needed for the vocal program by allowing the current band hall to become the choir room."

Dr. Sutphin said the College's long-range plan outlines many significant needs for East Central, and the ones previously mentioned only touch the surface.

"As the College continues to grow, new programs and facilities will be required and we look forward to the challenging opportunities that growth affords," he said.

The most recent programs added to the College's curriculum are Industrial Maintenance and Hotel/Restaurant Management Technology. The College's Workforce Development Center coordinates the Industrial Maintenance program, which is designed to meet the needs of entry level workers as well as provide the skill-sets required for industrial maintenance technicians. Classes are offered at the College's Productivity Enhancement Lab located at the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Vocational-Technical Center. Current course offerings range from the delivery of a comprehensive five-level apprenticeship program (through the National Center for Construction Education and Research) to the scheduling of short-term (24-hour), topic specified maintenance training classes. Trainees have the opportunity to earn Apprenticeship-to-Journeyman status credentials by completing the program.

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Talbert of Newton and Ashley Fleming of Philadelphia, who were named to the 2004 Mississippi All-State Academic Teams, which recognizes scholarly achievements and leadership accomplishments of students enrolled the state's community and junior colleges.

Talbert, a communications major with a 3.83 grade point average, was named on the First Team and received a $1,000 scholarship. Fleming, a pre-med major with a 3.56 GPA, was chosen on the Second Team.

Both were honored along with other All-Mississippi Academic Team members by the Mississippi Legislature and were guests of honor at a luncheon featuring Governor Haley Barbour as speaker. The annual recognition is coordinated by The Clarion-Ledger, Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges, and the Mississippi State Board for Community and Junior Colleges.

Renovation of the East Mall area and construction of the second phase of the Eddie M. Smith Student Union are among projects underway on the Decatur campus. The East Mall, which refers to the area between the W. Arno Vincent Administration Building and Mabry Memorial Cafeteria, has taken on a new look, as asphalt and curbing has been replaced with a patio surface, concrete sidewalks and landscaping. A wooden deck has also been constructed and is being used as a stage for various entertaining groups. Phase I of the project also included relocating all utility wiring underground and the installation of outdoor lighting.

Phase Two of the $90,000 project begins later this spring and includes replacing the remaining asphalt and curbing with the same patio surface as in the first phase. Additional landscaping and outdoor lighting are also included in the second phase.

The focal point of the area will be a fountain and permanent marker memorializing the Day Arboretum project on campus. Officially named the Day Family Memorial Campus Arboretum and Outdoor Classroom Project, it was established in memory of Samuel Marion Day and Elizabeth Frances Day of Newton County, and involved the planting of more than 250 trees in 1999 in an effort to transform the campus into a living classroom for the benefit of students and the enjoyment of the community.

Partial funding for the East Mall project is provided by two $15,000 grants from the Mississippi Forestry Commission. Private funding is also used in the project, most of which is being completed by the College's maintenance department.

Construction on the second and final phase of the Student Union is underway, with the project expected to be completed by November 2005.

Included in the 20,750 square-foot facility will be a student grill area, lounge, conference room, computer lab, bookstore, game room and the office of admissions, records and research.

Most of the funding for the $3.6 million project is provided by state bond monies. Addison Construction of Petal, Miss., is the contractor.

Construction is also underway for the new Memorabilia Room located in Burton Library. The special area will be used to store and exhibit items related to ECCC's 77-year history. Books, film and video tapes will also form part of the historical collection to be

Special to The Record

A record fall enrollment, student honors and campus improvements were among highlights of 2004 at East Central Community College in Decatur.

For 20 consecutive years, East Central has experienced a fall semester enrollment increase, and in 2004 a record 2,739 students registered for classes on the Decatur campus and at various off-campus sites in the five-county district.

This year's student body includes 1,877 academic students, 766 technical majors and 96 students who are enrolled in career courses. Of the total, 1,736 are freshman and 1,003 are sophomores.

Regarding the new enrollment record, ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin responded: "We are proud of the continued growth of East Central and we pledge to continue to provide quality instruction and training in many programs to the citizens of our district."

As is the case each year, numerous EC students received academic and/or athletic honors on the national and state levels.

Seven student-athletes were named NJCAA Academic All-Americans for 2003-04. Those selected Distinguished Academic All-Americans - students who earned a 3.8 grade point average or above - included Krissi Harris (fast-pitch softball) and Kery McDill (tennis), both of Decatur; Courtney Puckett (tennis) of Louisville; Drew Kenna (baseball) and Jonathan Sigrest (baseball), both of Forest; Jim Talley (baseball) of Saltillo and Cyrus Doe (soccer) of Monrovia, Liberia. Students chosen Academic All-Americans-those with 3.6 grade point averages or above- included Miranda Rosar (basketball) of Union and Rita Birden (basketball) of Monroe, La.

Kristin Chaney of Little Rock, a standout member of the Lady Warrior basketball and softball teams, also received All-American recognition as she was the only freshman softball player chosen on the All-American Second Team. She was also selected All-Region 23, All-State and All-Division and helped lead the Lady Warriors to a 26-14 regular season record and a berth in the state playoffs.

Chaney also played a key role in leading the Lady Warrior basketball team to the Region 23, MACJC and South Division titles and a berth in the NJCAA Division I Women's National Basketball Championship in Salina, Kansas. The Lady Warriors finished runners-up in the in Consolation Bracket and were ranked eighth in the final NJCAA poll with a record of 31 wins and just four losses. Honors she received included being named to the All-Region 23 Tournament Team and first-team All-State.

Rodeo team member Chance Smart of Newton also received national recognition by placing tenth in the bull riding competition at the College National Finals Rodeo held in Casper, Wyoming.

National honors were also presented to students in various clubs and organizations.

The College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, received honors at the organization's international convention held in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Theta Xi was named a Distinguished Chapter, Jenna Talbert of Newton received a Distinguished Chapter President award and Christy Ferguson was presented a Paragon Award for new advisers.

In the Skills USA Competition held in Kansas City, Missouri, Josh Weaver of Decatur placed second in Major Appliance Repair, and Mathew Smith of Morton finished eighth in Industrial Motor Controls.

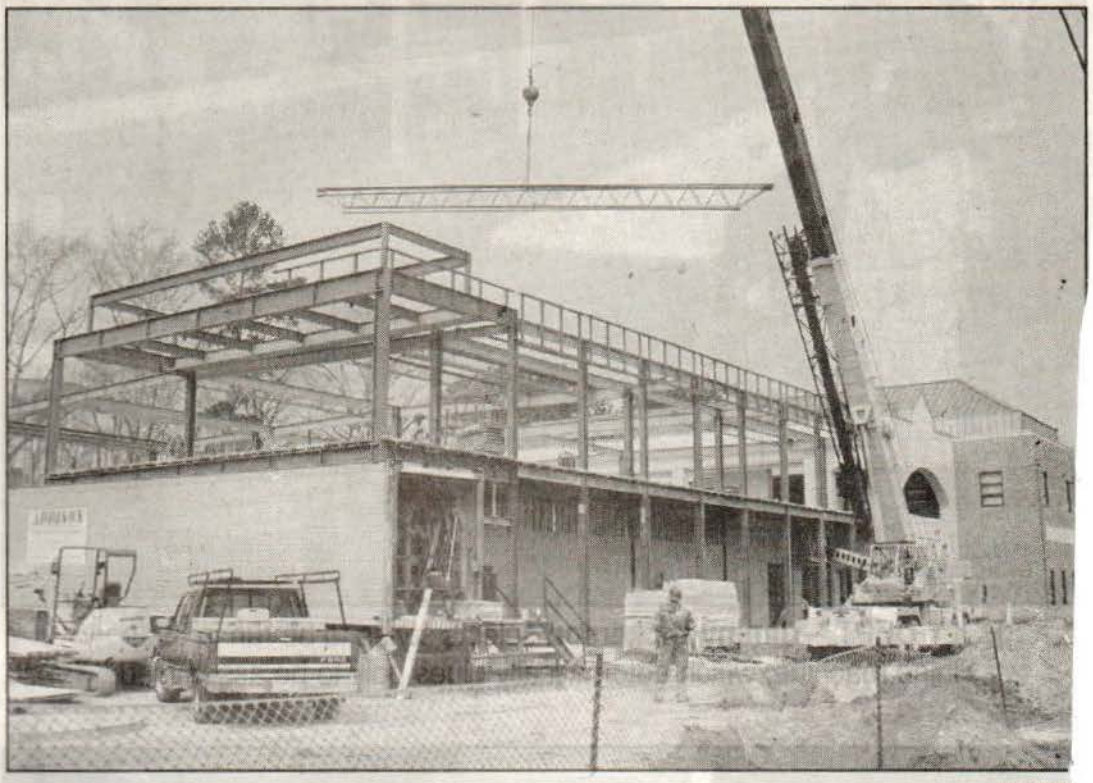
Students enrolled in the College's practical nursing and surgical technology programs won various honors at the HOSA (Health Occupation Students of America) National Leadership Conference held in Orlando, Florida.

Nursing students who received awards included Ashley White of Newton and Shelby Swanner of Bailey, second place, EMT; Anne Steptoe of Forest, Vincent McElhenney of Union and Genna Pope of Philadelphia, Top 10 Creative Problem Solving; Celeste Martin of Carthage and Laura Rosar of Union, Top 10 Health Education; and Gloria Martin of Carthage, Top 10 Nursing Assisting.

Award-winning surgical technology students included Mary Vega of Newton, first place, Human Growth and Development; Jashemia Cherry of Porterville, fourth, Extemporaneous Health Poster; and Ben Boyette and Keith Jacoby, both of Meridian, fifth, Community Awareness. DeAnna Morrow of Philadelphia was selected to serve as Central District Representative for Mississippi.

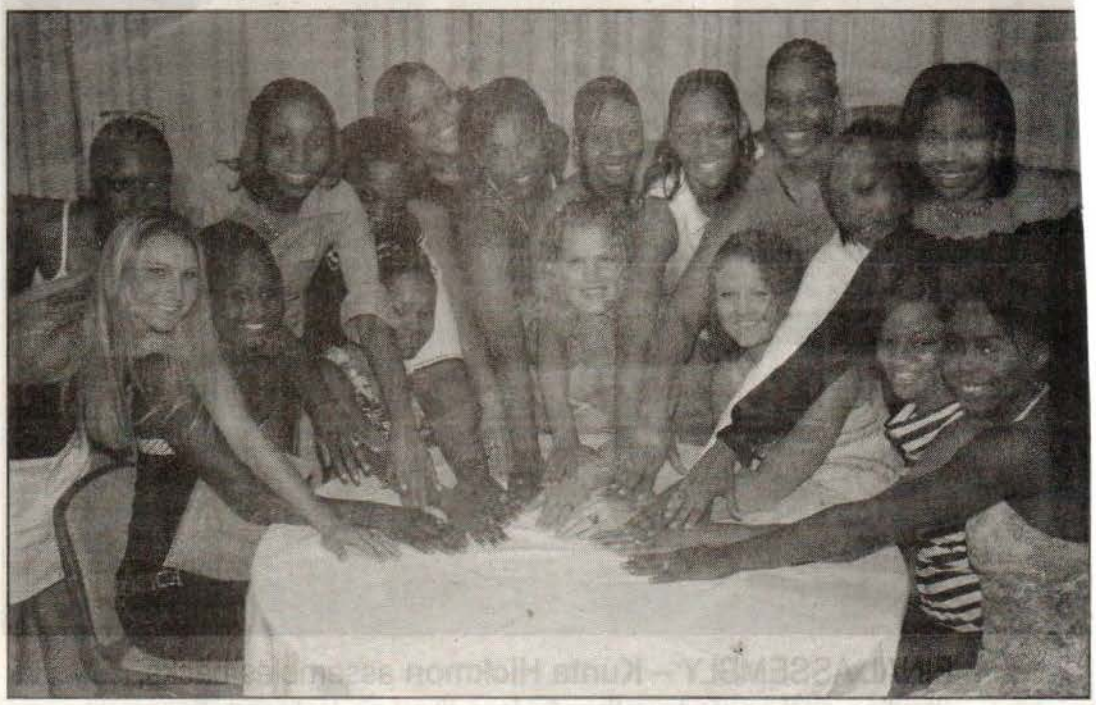
Students in the College's Phi Beta Lambda chapter also won honors at their national convention in Denver, Colorado. Linda Moody of Walnut Grove and Megan Stovall of Philadelphia placed sixth in Multimedia, and Brad Walton of Decatur and Chris Rush of Union finished ninth in the same category. Moody and Stovall also placed sixth in the American Enterprise Project, and Stovall finished ninth in the Local Annual Business Report.

Among students receiving state honors were Jenna



EC PHOT

Construction is underway for Phase II of the Eddie M. Smith Student Union, which is scheduled for completion by the end of 2005.



EC PHOTC

Members of the 2003-04 ECCC women's basketball team display championship rings they received after winning the MACJC and Region 23 tournament titles. The Lady Warriors advanced to the NJCAA Tournament in Salina, Kansas, where they finished runners-up in the Consolation Bracket. East Central was ranked eighth in the final NJCAA poll with a 31-4 record.

WEEK OF April 11

COURTESY PHOTO/ECCC

Patsy Dunigan Clark of Louisville was recently welcomed as new member of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees. Clark, shown with Board Chairman Prentice Copeland (left) of Philadelphia and ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, is a retired paralegal for Fair and Mayo attorneys in Louisville, where she was employed for 25 years. A longtime supporter of ECCC, Clark is a former president of the Colleges Alumni Association and the Warrior Club, a support group for ECCC athletics, which she helped found. She currently serves on the ECCC Foundation Board of Directors. She was selected the Colleges Alumna of the Year in 1993. Clark, a graduate of Philadelphia High School and ECCC, is married to William Clark who is employed with Taylor Machine Works. Their daughter, Lisa Clark Fourtnet, serves as choral director at Ridgeland High School.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT

Hundreds flock to ECCC Job Fair

By Bryan Murphy
The Newton Record

Hundreds converged on East Central Community College's Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building in Decatur last Thursday in search of information about jobs and careers. The fifth annual Business, Education and Healthcare Expo had companies and schools represented statewide. Committee chairman Chris Harris was happy with the turnout.

"It was a great turnout," Harris said. "I'm very satisfied."

Harris noted the effort that made the event successful.

"The committee helped put this event together. It takes a group of people to make it work. The faculty and students really got behind this. Students came prepared, they had their resumes. The vendors that were here were every enthusiastic. There were a few less here than last year, but the economy is different than last year. More people will be hired this year."

A lot of non students were in attendance at the event.

"We had several displaced workers attend," Harris said. "The college serves a five-county area and the event was open to all residents, not just students. It was a win-win situation for ECCC and the community."

Vendors on hand were asked a lot of questions.

"The students were very bright and engaging," Emily Keith, of MSU's College of Business and Industry, said. "They're excited about continuing their education. I have talked to a lot of students."

"There was tremendous interest shown in our hospital," Deanna Cornish, of Riley Memorial Hospital in Meridian, said. "A lot of moms as well as students have talked to us. What we have at Riley's is a family atmosphere and great benefits, that's an important part of what we offer."

La-Z-Boy assistant human resource manager Cyndi Robinson Myrick talked about the variety of jobs available within their company.

"People do not realize what we have," Myrick said. "When someone mentions La-Z-Boy they think factory work and sewing, but we're much more than that. We have engineering, computer networking, management opportunities, financial positions and RN and LPN's. We're one of the best kept secrets in the South."

One of the many students who were roaming the gym floor summed up the day best, "I got of lot of information on what they had to offer."

Bill Cole, of Ideal Solutions, won a La-Z-Boy recliner. The chair was one of many door prizes given away.

BRYAN MURPHY/ THE NEWTON RECORD

Many students and older adults flocked to ECCC's Job Fair Expo on the Decatur campus last Thursday.

WEEK OF April 18

WEEK OF April 8

ECCC 'Industry in Classroom' Participants ~ Students in career and technical programs at East Central Community College in Decatur received first-hand information on what to expect when entering the working world thanks to the above industry/business representatives who participated in the College's annual "Industry in the Classroom" program. Participants spoke to the various classes and related information from their respective areas to help prepare students for the workforce. Pictured are (first row, from left) Durwin Lewis of Killens Chevrolet, who spoke to students in automotive mechanics technology; Janean Harrison of Weems Community Health Center, business technology; George Taylor of Community Bank, computer network support and technology; and Eddie Holmes of Holmes Industries, machine shop technology; and (standing from left) Tammy Sessums of Riley Hospital, surgical technology; Tommy McKinley of Taylor Machine Works, welding; and Larry Cook of Peavey Electronics, electronic technology. Not pictured are Mark Massey of Massey's, Inc., who spoke to students in heating and air conditioning technology, and Michelle Alawine of Tri-State Consulting, who addressed students in drafting and design technolog.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

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MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF April 25

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

AREA JUDGES VISIT ECCC: Circuit Court Judges Vernon Cotten (second from left) of Carthage and Marcus Gordon (third from left) of Union were luncheon guests of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees at its April meeting. Judge Cotton is completing his eighth year on the bench and Judge Gordon has served 26 years. Both represent the Eighth Judicial District. Pictured with the campus visitors are ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin (left) and Board Chairman Prentice Copeland of Philadelphia.

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WEEK OF April 25

SUBMITTED PHOTO

ECCC, MSU OFFER 'SAFETY COURSE'

East Central Community College's Workforce Development Center recently partnered with the Continuing Education Division at Mississippi State University to offer a workshop on safety standards for industry and business managers and safety professionals. The four-day course, which was held at the ECCC Productivity Lab in Philadelphia, is designed to provide participants with a practical orientation to the major safety topics covered in OSHA's General Industry Standards. Class participants include (seated from left) Wendy Conner of Preston, representing Shuqualak Lumber; Jeffrey Lathem of Lena and Safety Risk; Kathy Lott of Brandon and Ergon; Jim Benefield of Petal and Hood Industries; and Mandy McDade of DeKalb and Pharma Pac; and (standing from left) Blake Warren, ECCC Productivity Lab trainer; class instructor Chad Suggs of Mississippi State University; Jody McDade of Porterville and Rick Rigdon of Scooba, both representing Shuqualak Lumber; Larry Stephens of Petal and Hood Industries; class instructor Ben Rosenkrans of Mississippi State University; Ramon Flores of Philadelphia and AAI Corp.; and Roger Whitlock, director, ECCC Workforce Development Center.

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WEEK OF May 2

Bush retiring as ECCC counselor

Special to The Record

Sylvia Bush has "mixed feelings" regarding her retirement from ECCC, where she has served the past three years as counselor of career-technical education following two years service as work-based learning coordinator.

"I am excited about beginning a new segment of my life but sad to be leaving the friends I have made at East Central," she stated.

will especially miss getting to know the students, she said.

Bush, plans to work for a private consulting company after she officially retires on June 30.

"My dad (Kenneth Horn) spent his life in the education field as a high school principal and counselor. I was impressed how he made a difference in the lives of so many students," she stated.

Bush, who also teaches Intermediate Algebra and Human Growth and Development as part of the College's evening class schedule, has served 33 years in the field of education.

Prior to beginning her employment at ECCC, Bush was Tech Prep Coordinator and Counselor at Mississippi Delta Community College in Moorhead. She has also worked at several secondary schools as a high school counselor and mathematics teacher.

Bush said working with students has brought her the most enjoyment.

"I love working with students. Without a doubt, we have the greatest group of students anywhere," she stated.

What's been her biggest challenge? "Counseling sessions with students. She added, "I will not miss the tears and frustrations that students have when they have not been accepted into one of our programs.

She will miss her EC "family." "I will definitely miss the people at EC – the faculty, staff, administration and students. I

During her spare time, she enjoys reading, walking and watching movies.

A graduate of Carthage High School, Bush received an associate's degree from ECJC. While attending East Central, she was a member of the women's basketball team coach by Miss Lucille Wood. She received a bachelor's degree from Mississippi State College for Women, a master's degree from Mississippi State University, and completed additional graduate work at Mississippi College and Delta State University.

She has two sons, Todd Bush and Ken Bush. Todd is stationed at Ramstein Air Force Base in Germany and Ken is employed at a ski resort in Mammoth Mountain, CA.

Bush, who will be honored with other retirees at the College's end-of-the-year dinner in May, expressed appreciation to her ECCC colleagues:

"I would just like to thank everyone for the opportunity to have worked at one of the best community colleges in the state. It has been a great experience for me."

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WEEK OF Qu118

Tucker gets full-time position at ECCC

After serving the past two years as adjunct speech instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur, Stan Tucker has been named to the position on a full-time basis, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Tucker, who resides in Philadelphia, will also serve as theatre instructor and is responsible for directing the annual fall dinner theatre and spring musical productions at the College.

A native of Philadelphia, Tucker is a former adjunct instructor in the Speech and Theatre Department at Hinds Community College and served as instructor/director of theatre in the Communication Department at Mississippi College. His experience in theatre also includes serving as producing artistic director for a Christian theatrical touring group in Jackson.

Tucker began his career as a writer/editor/photographer for the Simpson County News in Mendenhall.

In addition to his teaching duties at ECCC, Tucker serves as pastor of Springfield Baptist Church in Carthage.

Stan Tucker

He is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi, where he received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in theatre and a Master of Arts degree in theatre.

He is married to the former Gail Edwards of Philadelphia.

Tucker officially begins his full-time duties at East Central on Augus 1.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF May 16, 2005

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HOWELL HONORED FOR ECCC SERVICE: David Howell (third from left) of Carthage was recently recognized for his nine years of service as Chairman of the East Central Community College Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors. Howell is shown receiving a plaque of appreciation from current Board Chairman George Taylor of Forest. Also pictured are ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and Stacey Hollingsworth, administrative assistant in the Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations.

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Amis Retiring As ECCC Tech Prep Coordinator

05

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

After serving 31 ½ years in the field of education, Sandra Amis says it's time to do some things that she never had time to do when she was full-time employed.

Amis, who has served as East Central Community College's coordinator of Tech Prep education since joining the College staff in 1997, will have that opportunity when she retires on June 30.

Amis emphasized she is not retiring because of her responsibilities at the College, which also includes serving as an adjunct instructor.

"I'm not tired of working as Tech Prep Coordinator and a teacher. Both jobs have been the joy of my life. I started teaching my classmates when I was in the first grade and have continued teaching throughout my life. I cannot imagine my life without studying and teaching," she stated.

As Tech Prep Coordinator, Amis provides technical assistance to schools implementing Tech Prep into the curriculum. She also provides educational resources, teacher-training workshops, career awareness information, and professional development for administrators, teachers, counselors and career center managers. In addition, she has conducted math training and given motivational speeches for schools throughout Mississippi and at national conferences.

Her duties in the classroom include teaching intermediate algebra, college algebra, and problem solving with real numbers.

What has she liked most about her job?

"The best thing about my job has been the opportunity to form a superb working relationship with the ECCC staff as well as with the administrators, teachers and staff at local schools in our district," she stated.

Amis added that completing her work has sometimes been a challenge.

"Most of the time I have several programs going at the same time. I laughingly tell everyone that I am 'multi-tasking,'" she said.

"But I really love my work and will miss the close camaraderie that I have shared with the staff in the Career and Technical Division as well as the many staff members and instructors on campus," she added.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Amis served 10 years as a math instructor at Lake Attendance Center.

She left teaching for five-and-a-half years to assist her husband, Robert, with their farming operation, which included cattle and eight broiler houses.

Amis later returned to Lake and taught math for 12 ½ years. She also sponsored the yearbook, Beta Club and cheerleading squad.

During her tenure at Lake, she was selected STAR Teacher eight times.

In reflecting on her career, Amis said she was inspired to enter the field of education by several of her elementary and high school teachers:

"From Mrs. Lila Brown (second grade teacher), I learned the benefits of peer teaching; from Mrs. Pittman (fifth grade teacher), I learned the worth of common dominators; and from Mrs. Lillian Horton (high school English teacher), I learned to appreciate poetry; and from Lois and Raymond McMullan (high school math teacher and counselor), I learned to value teaching as a profession."

Amis replied that had she not selected a career in education, she "would have chosen an occupation that provided help for people, such as nursing."

When she is not "multi-tasking" at EC, Amis said she likes to work in her yard, and read and study the Bible. She also teaches Sunday school and has conducted numerous Bible study groups at her church, Reid Chapel Church of God.

Amis said leaving EC will be difficult, as the College has served a vital role in her family's life.

"As a graduate of East Central Community College, I value the education and experiences

Sandra Amis, East Central Community College's coordinator of Tech Prep education, has decided to retire from full-time employment. Amis, who has served on East Central Community College's staff since 1997, will retire on June 30. Amis emphasized she is not retiring because of her responsibilities at the College, which also includes serving

WEEK OF May 16, 2005

DAVIS HONORED

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DAVIS HONORED FOR ECCC SERVICE: Gene Davis (left) of Louisville was recognized for 20 years service at East Central Community College during the annual "Teacher Appreciation Tea" held in the Gold Room of Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Davis has served the past 17 years as dean of adult and continuing education and was dean of students for three years. He is shown with his wife, Midge Davis, and his step-son, Blake Hedrick. Davis is a native of Scott County.

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WEEK OF May 16, 2005

ECCC, MBCI

By LYNN LOFTON
MBJ Contributing Writer

CHOCTAW — New educational opportunities are coming to the Choctaw Hospitality Institute that will be open to employees of Pearl River Resort and residents of the area. East Central Community College and Pearl River Resort, which is owned and operated by the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, formed a partnership to offer a two-year program in hotel and restaurant management technology beginning with the 2005-2006 school term. Classes will be taught in the resort's state-of-the-art Choctaw Hospitality Institute (CHI) that opened in 2001.

A staunch supporter of educational opportunities, Chief Phillip Martin said, "Career development programs at Pearl River Resort will keep our associates continually learning, thus providing them the ability to build a rewarding and satisfying career."

He added that the program will be offered to the general public as well as associates of the Choctaw resort, which includes Silver Star Hotel and Casino, Golden Moon Hotel and Casino, 14 restaurants and 1,066 hotel rooms.

Dr. Phil A. Sutphin , ECCC's president, said the college looks forward to working with the resort in offering the much-needed program. He said the college has worked with the tribe since 1988 in various capacities.

"My basic mantra is that it's a win/win situation for both parties," he said. "We're excited and expect to have the premiere hospitality training program in the nation. We're pleased to partner with the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians to provide educational opportunities and jobs for our area."

He said hotel and restaurant management technology is being offered as a result of two needs assessment surveys completed by associates at the resort and students enrolled in secondary vocational-technical centers in ECCC's five-county district. Input regarding the program was also provided by CHI management.

"We are an accredited program and have the capability to provide an associate of applied science degree," Sutphin said. "The CHI has all you could ask for in a facility to prepare students for careers as managers/supervisors in the hospitality and tourism industry."

At the end of the program, students may opt to receive a certificate by successfully completing designated courses listed in the hotel and restaurant management concentration.

Best of classroom and hands-on experience

CHI executive director Tim Tubby said this program will offer a unique opportunity to those looking to enter the hospitality field or those working in the area and wanting to expand their knowledge. "The fact that it will

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MS Business Journal ✓

partnering to offer new opportunities

Special to the Mississippi Business Journal

Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians Chief Phillip Martin (center) and East Community College president Dr. Phil A. Sutphin (right) sign an agreement establishing the hotel/restaurant management technology program to be offered by the college at the Choctaw Hospitality Institute beginning with the 2005-06 college term. At left is Pearl River Resort president Chuck Miller.

be held at CHI will offer students not only a classroom setting but hands-on experience they can't get anywhere but the workplace," he said.

Sutphin said several students are already enrolled in the program. Because it's a lab-based program, there will be only 20 students enrolled each year. Twenty more students will be added the second year. He also hopes to add a culinary component next year, bringing in another 20 students. That will require additional instructors and perhaps visiting chefs.

Tubby said the CHI is set up basically for the gaming industry. It has several classrooms where games and slot technology are taught and has a large kitchen. This year the institute trained 1,000 employees in March and 500 each of the other months.

"We started guest hospitality training trying to get all the employees through it before the busy season starts in June," he said. "We have trainers from all the departments of the resort who teach basic skills."

He said the program with the community college will enhance these basic classes, giving employees an opportunity to earn a degree. "This will accelerate their training, and they will have the opportunity to move into lower management," he said. "Just walking around the property, I've had a few people express interest in it."

Employees have been informed of the new program through bi-monthly meetings, a resort newsletter and e-mail.

Classes will be offered during the day. Tubby said whether or not employees are allowed to attend during a work shift will be at the discretion of department supervisors. Some of the classes to be offered include hotel and restaurant management technology, computer applications, hospitality tourism, oral communication, English composition, applied business math and social studies. Additionally, Tubby said students can participate in supervised work programs.

Sutphin said the community college has been pushing for this type of program with the resort that is located 25 miles from the Decatur campus. "We said 'You provide the facility, we'll provide the program,'" he said. "We've been working with them in workforce development, and this is not a brand new thing for us. It's a natural thing."

He said ECCC's Native American enrollment is 8% to 10% each year among the school's 2,750 students attending for credit. The college also has worked with 13,000 people in non-credit workforce training. Many of those are from the tribe.

"We will be there working with them in the hospitality industry as we have in workforce training," Sutphin said. "We can add other components to make it better."

WEEK OF 5-30-05

ECCC PHOTO

SCOTT OFFICIALS VISIT ECCC

Scott County officials made their annual visit to the East Central Community College campus in Decatur and were luncheon guests at the May meeting of the College's Board of Trustees. The special visitors are shown with Board members from Scott County following the luncheon. Seated from left are supervisors Bruce McMillan (District Five), Jack Gordon (District Four), Tim Sorey (District Two) and Buford Palmer (District Three); comptroller Kim Ervin; and Tax Assessor/Collector Myra Murrell-Davis. Standing from left are Chancery Clerk Billy Frank Alford; trustees Rebecca Farris and Vernon Crotwell, both of Morton and Annie Stowers of Forest; Circuit Clerk Joe Rigby; and Board members Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake, Royce Shaw of Forest and Frank McCurdy of Morton, Scott County Superintendent of Education.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER X

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES X

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CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF 5-30-05

EC adding lights to football field

From staff reports

Beginning today, youngsters from across the area will converge on the campus of East Central Community College in Decatur for the first of various sports camps this month.

And while those youngsters will notice a slight change on the ECCC landscape — it won't be nearly as drastic as the change Warrior football fans will notice this fall.

East Central is in the midst of replacing its lighting system at Warrior Stadium, a project, that could be completed by the end of the month.

Underwood

"How long exactly, I'm not sure," ECCC football coach and athletic director Terry Underwood said. "But I feel certain everything will be ready to go by the time we play our first football game.

"I'm not sure what all goes into it ... but with good weather, they might be done by the end of the month."

The old light poles at ECCC's stadium were taken down last week. They will be replaced by eight brand new, concrete poles that will be erected as the weather permits.

"I believe they're going to be really nice and I know it'll be an upgrade over what we had," Underwood said. "It's been a good while coming. We've been needing new lights for a while because our lighting was just not in great shape."

Underwood said he wasn't sure how long the old poles and lights had been in place.

"That's a good question," he chuckled. "They may have been there since the stadium was built ... they also may have been replaced, but I've been here over a 10-year period and I know we haven't changed them in that

See **LIGHTS**, Page 3B

Lights

From Page 1B

time."

The cost of the project was not disclosed, but Underwood acknowledged that it's sometimes more efficient to replace lighting systems than to maintain them and replace expensive bulbs.

He also indicated that Warrior fans should instantly notice the difference on the field come September.

"Usually, the less poles, the more bright the lights are," Underwood said. "We felt like the eight concrete poles was the best option for us ... it'll be an improvement for sure.

"Obviously, it's something we've needed for a long time, and now it's a reality. We should be able to light the field a lot better for our football games and any other activities there."

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WEEK OF 6-6-05

EC Tourney Draws Solid Turnout

Numerous Scott County Golfers Chip In For Fund-Raiser

By CHRIS ALLEN BAKER
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

FOREST—Numerous prizes were handed out Saturday at the Forest Country Club but the real winners were students who will benefit from area golfers' action on the course.

The fourth annual Warrior Golf Classic, sponsored by East Central Community College's Alumni Association, came to Forest in the first year of a planned rotation of taking the tourney to the counties in the school's district.

It was the first time for the 4-man scramble to be played in Scott County, Lovett said.

The tournament field attracted many familiar faces as numerous golfers from Scott County and others from as far as Atlanta participated.

Proceeds from the one-day tournament will help fund scholarships for ECCC students residing in Scott, Leake, Neshoba, Newton and Winston counties.

Bill Lovett, a Scott County resident who serves as the association's president, said he was pleased with the turnout that saw 15 teams participate.

"It was a good tournament this year and it took a lot of hard work by many people involved," Lovett said. "We appreciate the Forest Country Club for having us and all the teams who came out to support the tournament."

Winning teams included:

First Flight

- Media Team, 56: Al Brown, Art Matthews, Lindsey Hall, Andy Lucovich.
- Community Bank, 57: Tommy Smith, Steve Gibson, Randy Dilley, Randy Gibson. *Also won the Corporate Sponsor award.*
- Valley, 59: Patrick Brown, Brent Gregory, Billy Smith, Joedy Hurst.
- Citizens Bank, 62: Ken Jones, Bobby Espy, Rusty Barnett, Randy McElhenney.
- Killens Chevrolet, 63: Mark Killens, Joe Killens, Kyle Killens, Jess Dilley.

Second Flight

- Georgia Pacific, 63: Jerry Rogers, Mack Hollingsworth, Ben Kitchings, Randy McDill.
- Bancorp South, 63: Shawn Sparks, Jerry Cook, Chad Tadlock, Vance Cox.
- ECCC Coaches, 64: Terry Underwood, Jake Yarborough, Brad Hodge, Scott Hill.
- Tyson, 65: Dewane Weems, Stan Varner, Landon Varner, Daniel Rice.
- SIVAD, 66: Scott Cox, Chris Murphy, Chris Clark, Cole Harris.

Third Flight

- Molpus Timberlands, 66: Mike Cooper, Terrell Winstead, Charlie Manogue, Benny Petty.
- Bill Freeman Team, 66: Bill Freeman, Matt Alford, David Freeman, Lynn Torrance.
- Don Triplett Team, 68: Don Triplett, Jimmy Wright.
- ESCO, 68: Andy Rowzee, Ray Williams, Dan Gorgas, Percy Pearson.
- Raytheon, 72: John Reiss, Ricky Harvey, Jim Shearer, David McIntyre.

ECCC officials said in previous reports that a record $8,700 was raised in the 2004 event, with $2,800 provided for scholarships. The remaining $5,900 went into the endowment fund, which now totals approximately $8,500.

Leading into the weekend, three students will see the benefits that the tournament fund-raiser provides. One of those students, Daniel Russum, a Scott County native, was among the three receiving a scholarship award on Thursday, Lovett said.

Lovett said organizing committee members decided to move the tournament from its previous location,

Please see TOURNEY, 10A

TOURNEY

From Page 14A

the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club on the Pearl River Resort in Choctaw, so other golf courses in the five-county district could have an opportunity to host the fundraising event.

"The Dancing Rabbit courses are among the best in the country, but we thought it was time to start having the tournament at other area courses so more people will have an opportunity to participate.

Dr. Phil Sutphin, president of East Central Community College, said at the tournament he was not sure where the tournament will be held next year.

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT
NEWTON RECORD
MERIDIAN STAR
CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF 5-30-05

ECCC honors Vaughn

COURTESY PHOTO/ECCC

Scott Vaughn (left) was recently honored for his 10 years service as director of the Baptist Student Union at East Central Community College in Decatur. Vaughn, a Winston County native, is shown receiving congratulations from Paul Blanchard, Associational Missions Director for Winston County, prior to a reception held in Vaughn,s honor at the BSU Center. Also pictured is Vaughn,s wife, Lisa.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL X

SPIRIT OF MORTON

IMPACT

CARTHAGINIAN

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF 6-6-05

ECCC PHOTO

Retiring East Central Community College staff members Sylvia Bush (left) of Brandon and Sandra Amis (right) of Conehatta were recently presented resolutions commending their years of service to the College and the field of education by ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin (center). Bush has been employed at East Central since 2000, first serving as work-based learning coordinator for two years followed by a three-year stint as counselor of career-technical instruction. She has 33 total years of service in the education field. Amis has served as the College's Coordinator of Tech-Prep Education since 1997. She is also a former math instructor at Lake Attendance Center. She has accumulated 31 ½ years of service in education.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES X

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

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WEEK OF 7-11-05

ECCC lists spring honor roll

Students named to the 2005 spring semester honor roll, which includes those selected to the President's List, Dean's List and Honorable Mention List, have been announced at East Central Community College in Decatur, according to Donna Luke, Director of Admissions, Records and Research.

President's List

Those named to the President's List, students with a 4.0 grade point average, include the following:

Julie K. Debord, Jimmie Earl Lepard, Stephanie Nicole May, Chasity M. Odom, Lee Ann Rawson and Shirley Mae White, all of Carthage; Shannon Elizabeth Brock, Kosciusko;

Misty LeAnn Pigg, Lena; Dana Donald Wilcher, Walnut Grove.

Dean's List

The Dean's List includes the following students who achieved a 3.5 or above grade point average:

Otiko Guy Anthony, Kathryn Jacobs Barnes, Amanda Diane Dowell, Kathlyn Elizabeth Faulkner, Tiffeny Rochelle Gilmore, Stacy Lynn Hathorn, Stewart Warren Hoy, Nicholas Brock Kendrick, Ashley E. Lepard, Jason Price, Jodie L. Rawson, Sonya Wilder Rushing, Randy G. Sanders, Christopher Caleb Shepard, Kim Annette Smitherman, Keyahda Nicole Stokes, Crystal Dianne Tull and Ashley McKinney Verry, all of Carthage;

Crystal Gale Hughes and Richard Erik Latham, both of Lena; Tekeyla L. Lyles and Daniel E. Madden, both of Sebastopol;

Kathryn Elizabeth Barney, Helen Bolton Brown, Jonathan Eugene Corley, Mark Anthony Engram, Loretta Gates and Clay Daniel Thrash, all of Walnut Grove.

Honorable Mention

The following students were named to the Honorable Mention List and earned a 3.0 or above grade point average:

Courtney Danielle Barrett, Shelia Ann Beamon, Carol Marie Brown, Edna Fulwilley Collins, Leslie JoAnna Daugherty, Alexander Craig Dixon, Kristyn Brooke Dorman, Ronnie Mitchell Edwards,

Galathia Q. Fortune, Jason Robert Hannis, Traci A. Harrell, Joshua Dwyane Hayes, Thomas Caloway Ingram, Dustin Lynn Johnson, David Bryan Jones, Rebecca Dowdle Jones,

Amber Kristin Ladner, Jason Brett Long, Jerry Antonio Luckett, Jessie Nicole McCleary, Evelyn Bolling Moore, Randy Kern Peoples, Leigh A. Quick, Crystal Denise Scott, Randall Shane Shumake, Yman C. Stovall,

Gerry Benjamin White, Timothy T. Wilcher, Mega Lee Williamson and Kimberly Satcher Withers, all of Carthage;

Dorothy Janeen Kyzar, Lena; Alisha Marquetta Perry, Ludlow; Jennifer Lynn Allen, Mary Williams Barton and Michelle Lynn Jackson, all of Sebastopol;

Kelly Renee Bankston, Jason Dwight Bates, William Grant Comans, Susan Ellington, Ardria Arlisha Harris, Eric K. Jones, Joseph Andrew Lathem, Linda Griffin Monk, Barbara N. Thomas Sam and Jennifer Monk Sones, all of Walnut Grove.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WEEK OF 7-11-2005

ECCC orientation attracts numerous Neshoba students

Students from Neshoba County were among participants of the June 18 orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur.

During orientation, students receive their approved class schedules, reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms and have photos made for ID cards.

Students from Neshoba County who attended orientation activities and their respective high schools include the following:

Neshoba Central High School: Jennafer Beason, Ashley Ellingburg, Samantha Giambrone, Chester Greer, Jessica Griffin, Nathaniel Herrington, Patrick Jackson, Valerie Lillis, Hannah Luke, James Madison, Matthew Permenter, Robert Sims, Deidre Tubby, Holly Williamson and Jerica Williamson.

Philadelphia High School: William Bavetta, Cassidy Byars, Candius Hogan, Kerry Hudson, Jonathan Pickens and Angela Stribling.

Choctaw Central High School: Deana Chickaway, Tara Chickaway, Carletta Henry, Robert Mingo, Anthony Steve, Mignon Wesley and Nikita Wilson.

Also attending the June 18 orientation session from Neshoba County were Candace Copeland, Paula Willis, Gary Cotton, Carl Majure, Betty Phillips, Amy Snow, Joshua Jackson and Thomi McGeisey, all of Philadelphia.

Remaining orientation sessions are scheduled Wednesday, July 20 and Friday, Aug. 12. Fall classes begin Monday, Aug. 22.

For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 375. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF 7-11-2005

ECCC Orientation Attracts Numerous Scott County Students

DECATUR-- Students from Scott County were among participants of the June 18 orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur.

During orientation, students received their approved class schedules for the fall semester, reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms and have photos made for ID cards.

Students from Scott County who attended orientation activities and their respective high schools include the following:

Forest High School: Eric Credille, DeQuita Ducksworth, Alfredo Hernandez, Justin Hurdle, Greyland LaPrade, Brandy Littrell and Natasha Robinson.

Scott Central High School: Kendrah Bradford, Marvin Burks, Ashley Donald, Laura Edwards, Neisha Farrell, Tia Lyles, Emmeral McLaurin, Marci Richardson and Shannon Smith.

Lake Attendance Center: Querida Brookings, Christopher Culpepper, Whitney Gilbert, Ashley Harris, Devon Hayes, Jessica Hollingsworth and Toddrick Love.

Morton Attendance Center: Luke Baugh, Tina Brown, Cedric Cox, Lance Fairchilds, Justin Ficklin, Essica Grant, James Jolly, Benjamin McCurdy, Rikki Steadman and Kristy Coley.

Sebastopol High School: Quylia Applewhite, Ashley Bell, Brandy Edwards, Kayla Wilson and Jessica Yates.

Also attending the June 18 orientation session from Scott County were Jessica Turner, Hope Parker and Brandi Sessums, all of Morton, and Johnny Wilkerson of Lake.

Remaining orientation sessions are scheduled Wednesday, July 20 and Friday, August 12. Fall classes begin Monday, August 22.

For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 375. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

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WEEK OF 7/11/05

ECCC PHOTO

Forest High School graduate Justin Hurdle (left) was among area students who attended orientation activities held at East Central Community College. During orientation, students received their approved class schedules for the fall semester, reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms and have photos made for identification cards. Hurdle received assistance in planning his fall schedule from athletic director/head football coach Terry Underwood.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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ECCC PHOTO

SIGNING UP FOR CLASSES

Morton High School graduate Ben McCurdy (right) was among area students who attended orientation activities held June 18 at East Central Community College. McCurdy is shown planning his fall semester schedule with assistance from speech instructor Kevin Ryals.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

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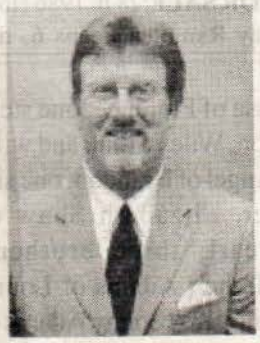
WEEK OF 7-11-2005

Westbrook Selected SBDC "State Star" for MS

DECATUR-- Helping local businesses succeed has resulted in a statewide honor for Ronald B. Westbrook, director of the Small Business Development Center at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Westbrook, who



Ronald B. Westbrook

has led the College's SBDC efforts since its inception in October 1994, is being recognized as the SBDC State Star for Mississippi, announced Walter D. (Doug) Gurley, who serves as state director of the Mississippi Small Business Development Centers, located at the University of Mississippi in Oxford.

Westbrook will receive the award at the Association of Small Business Development Centers Silver Anniversary Annual Conference in Baltimore, Maryland, September 6-9, 2005. He is among 63 SBDC directors from across the nation to be recognized for their success.

Gurley said Westbrook was selected for the prestigious honor "due to his dedication to clients and his genuine concern for the citizens of east central Mississippi."

Gurley also praised Westbrook for comments made by his clients, who mostly reside in the College's support area, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.

"The outpouring of support and gratitude (for Westbrook) is overwhelming," he stated. "Everyone says the same thing" 'he really cares about my success.'"

One such success story involves a local hospice, which began with three employees and quickly grew to 17 full-time staff members. The business owner credits Westbrook for her success and made the following comment: "Mr. Westbrook is very thorough and is committed to helping others achieve and prosper. I greatly appreciate Mr. Westbrook and East Central for their assistance."

Gurley noted that the College's Small Business Center "had a very productive year in 2004, especially when one considers that the service area includes only five rural counties in Mississippi, and that the Center's staff includes Ronnie and a secretary, which makes the economic impact of the Center all the more impressive."

The ECCC Small Business Development Center was responsible for creating 43 jobs and retaining 69 positions. The Center is also credited with $4,064,900 in sales increases, $2,220,100 in debt financing and $677,833 in non-debt financing.

Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president, also praised Westbrook for the service he provides area business owners and prospective entrepreneurs.

"Mr. Westbrook began East Central's Small Business Development Center and has moved it to its current status. This award is recognition for that good work. The College and Mr. Westbrook are committed to small business development and see it as a great economic development tool for our rural area" said Dr. Sutphin.

Westbrook, a Louisville native, is a graduate of Winston Academy, ECCC and Mississippi State University, where he received a bachelor's degree in banking and finance.

He and his wife Valorie have two sons, Hastings and Robert.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 7/11/05

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SIGNING UP FOR ECCC CLASSES: Newton County High School graduate Marcus Viverette (left) was among area students who attended orientation activities held June 18 at East Central Community College in Decatur. During orientation, students receive their approved class schedules for the fall semester, reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms and have photos made for identification cards. Viverette is shown planning his fall semester schedule with assistance from English instructor Tony Kinton. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Thursday, July 7; Wednesday, July 20; and Friday, August 12. Fall classes begin Monday, August 22. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 375. The email address is <mailto:jkillens@eccc.edu>jkillens@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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WEEK OF July 17, 2005

Christi Gregory

Gregory selected ECCC counselor

Christi Lee Gregory of Decatur was recently selected career-technical counselor at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Gregory, who began her new duties on July 1, previously served the College as Tech-Prep Career Center Director/Recruiter, a post she held for six years.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Gregory served as community education coordinator at Hospice South in Philadelphia. She is also a former telemarketer for the Mississippi State University Alumni Association and served as an account service representative at The Citizens Bank in Philadelphia. In addition, she is a former engineering department assistant at Yates Construction Company in Philadelphia.

A graduate of Neshoba Central High School, Gregory holds an Associate of Arts degree from ECCC; a Bachelor of Arts degree in educational psychology from Mississippi State University; and a Master of Science in counseling/psychology from the University of West Alabama.

She is married to Brent Gregory, who serves as ECCC's Director of Student Life. They have a daughter, McKinley.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF July 18, 2005

ECCC Collegians to perform at Neshoba County Fair

The Collegians, East Central Community College's rock -n- roll band, will make their 22nd appearance at the Neshoba County Fair when they perform at 1 p.m. at the Founders' Square Pavilion on Monday, July 25, and at 6:45 p.m. at the Racetrack prior to the Miss Neshoba County Fair pageant. The 1 p.m. performance will also feature the ECCC Cheerleaders and the Centralettes, the danceline for the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band. Pictured are (front row, from left) vocalists Carmelita Naylor of Meridian, Kailey Johnson of Philadelphia, Luke Howell of Decatur, Leigh Quick of Carthage and Victoria Loper of Decatur; (second row, from left) trumpeter Chris Smith of Union, saxophonists Liz Tullos of Philadelphia and Eric Henderson of Forest; trombonist David Walters of Philadelphia, keyboardist Jennifer Vance of Lake; and guitarists Daniel Warren of Clarkdale and Grant Morris of Philadelphia; and back row, from left) technicians Bryon Whitley of Philadelphia, Lee Dooley of Lake, Richard Burton of Little Rock, Joseph LeBlanc of Louisville, Coty Stokes of Nanih Waiya and Jonathan Walker of Hickory. Not pictured is Jeremie Jordan of Newton. Thomas W. Carson serves as director and also plays guitar. (EC Photo)

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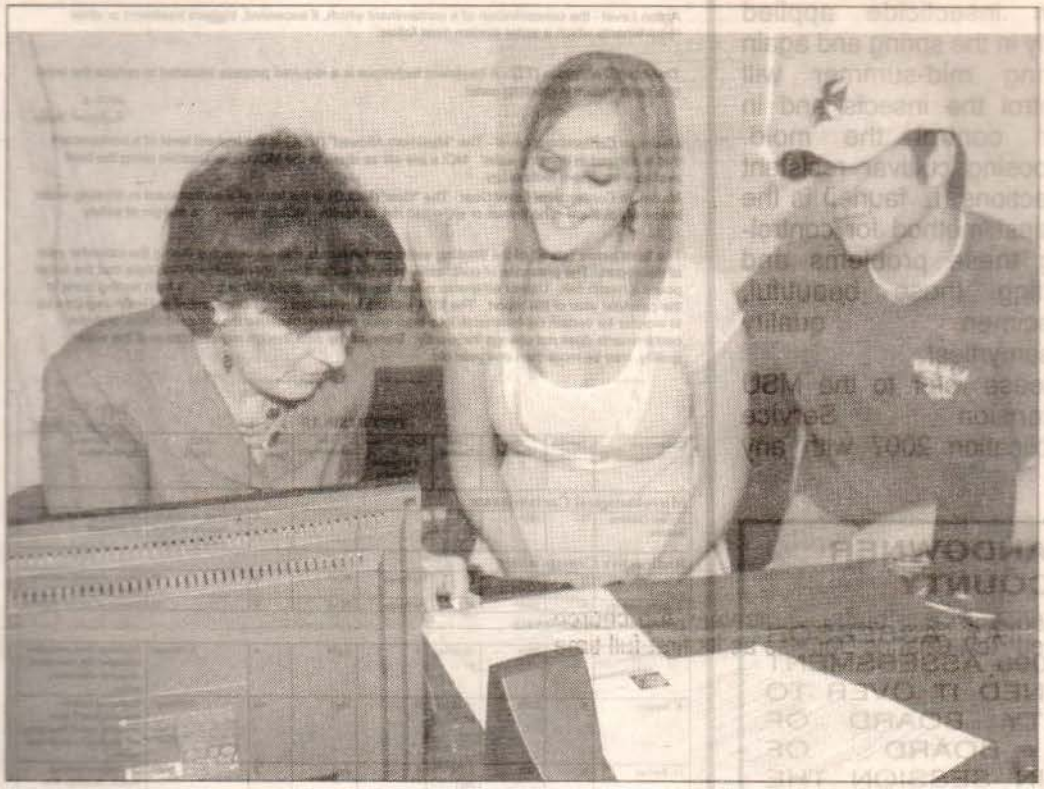
WEEK OF July 18, 2005

Baugh Attends ECCC Orientation



PHOTOXCREDITLINE

Aimee Baugh (center) of Kosciusko was among area students who attended orientation activities held July 7 at East Central Community College in Decatur. During orientation, students receive their approved class schedules for the fall semester, reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms and have photos made for ID cards. Baugh, a graduate of Ethel High School, is shown receiving assistance in planning her class schedule from Nan Anderson, an instructor in the College's Associate Degree Nursing program. Also pictured is Brent Woods of Noxapater, who also plans to attend ECCC. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Wednesday, July 20 and Friday, August 12. Fall classes begin Monday, August 22. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 375. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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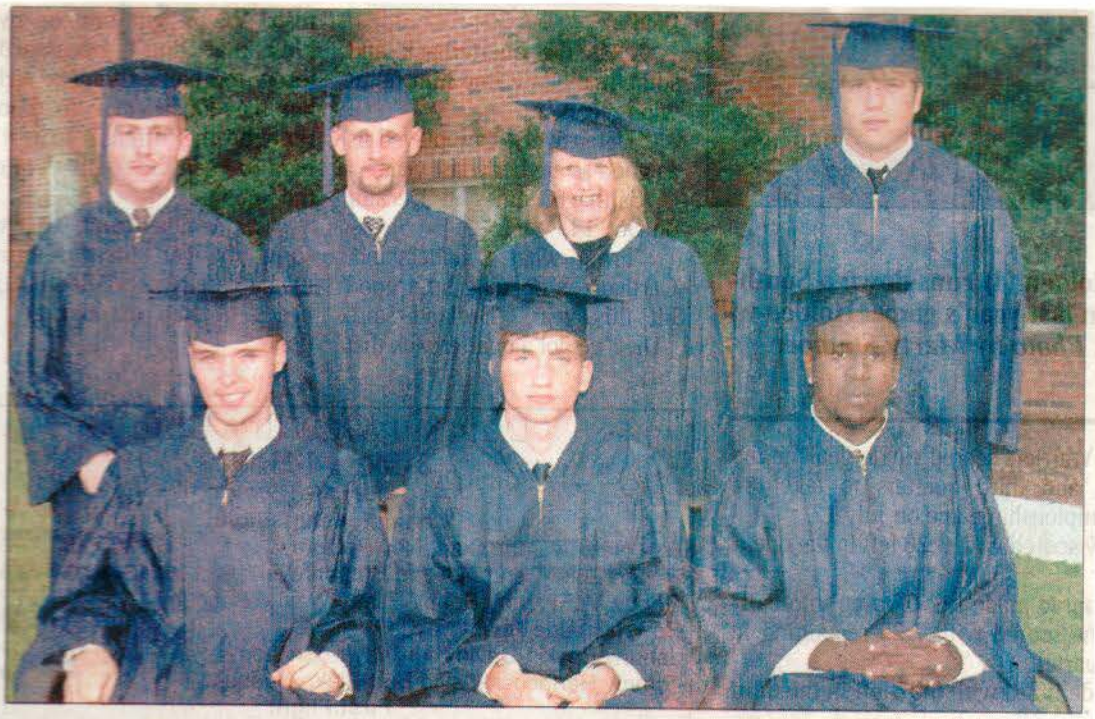
WEEK OF July 18, 2005



Receive GED Diplomas at ECCC ~ These Newton County residents were among area students who received high school equivalency diplomas during the annual GED Commencement held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Seated from left are Jason Way of Little Rock, Terry Atwood of Newton and Deroscio Bogan of Hickory. Standing from left are Matthew Graham, Sebastopol; Jerry Porter, Newton; Linda Brown, Decatur; and Dusty Russell, Union. Diplomas were presented to the Class of 2005 by ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. For more information about the College's GED Program, contact the Office of Adult and Continuing Education Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 278/279. The email address is mdavis@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF July 18, 2005

Receive GED diplomas at ECCC

Five Leake County residents were among area students who received high school equivalency diplomas during the annual GED Commencement held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Recipients included, from left, Bryson Wilder, of Carthage; Erin McCurdy, of Lena; Cody McCleary and Rebecca Perkins, both of Carthage; and Pamela Pettigrew of Lena.

Diplomas were presented to the Class of 2005 by ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. For more information about the College's GED Program, telephone the Office of Adult and Continuing Education at 601-635-2111 or, toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 278/279. The email address is mdavis@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF July 18, 2005

Receive GED Diplomas at ECCC

Nikki Shoemaker (left) of Pelahatchie and John McKay of Morton were among area students who received high school equivalency diplomas during the annual GED Commencement held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Diplomas were presented to the Class of 2005 by ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. For more information about the College's GED Program contact the Office of Adult and Continuing Education, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 278/279. The email address is mdavis@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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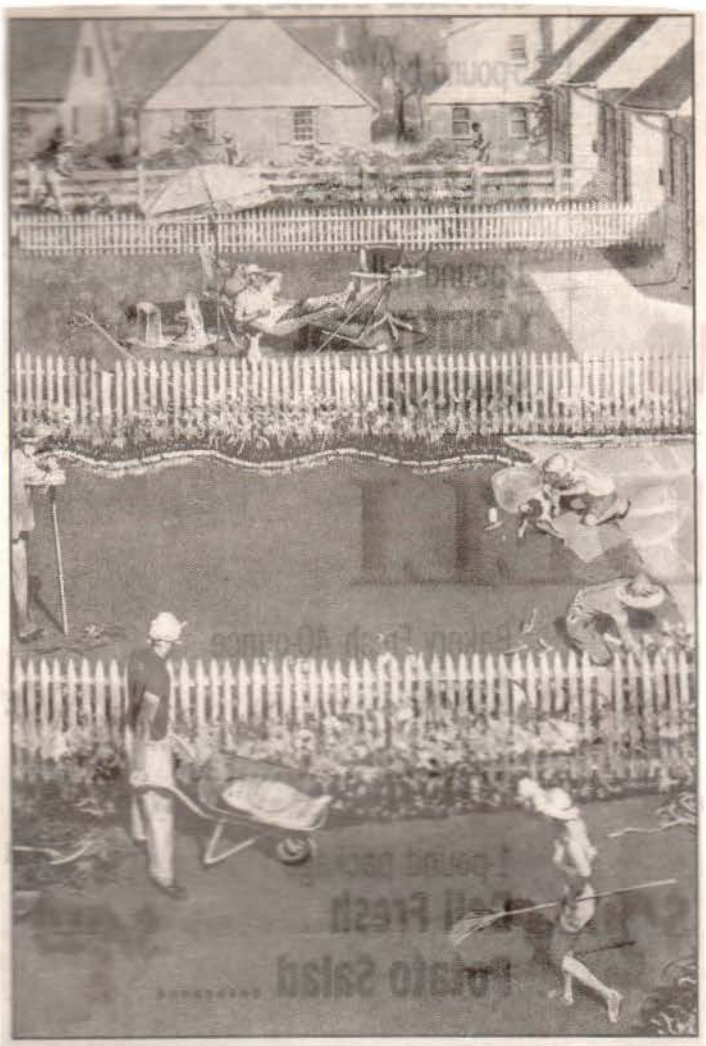

East Central to host 'Between Fences' exhibit

East Central Community College is seeking assistance from the public as the College prepares to be the first state host for the traveling exhibit "Between Fences," being provided by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and the Mississippi Humanities Council.

"Between Fences," a Museum on Main Street project, will officially be displayed to the public during an opening ceremony scheduled at 11 a.m. Wednesday, September 14 in the Associate Degree Nursing Building on the Decatur campus. The exhibit will remain on the ECCC campus through October 18.

The exhibit showcases the cultural history of fences and land use. It would like for the surrounding communities and counties to get involved and display local memorabilia related to fences.

"We are interested in displaying fencing tools, barbed wire samples, plat books, maps, photos, and other artifacts related to fences," said ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Dr. Sutphin said East Central's goal in hosting the exhibit "is to inform the current generation of the past and give them an opportunity to develop an appreciation for the humanities."

For those interested in providing artifacts for display at the exhibit or for more information about the exhibit, please contact Stacey Hollingsworth, exec-

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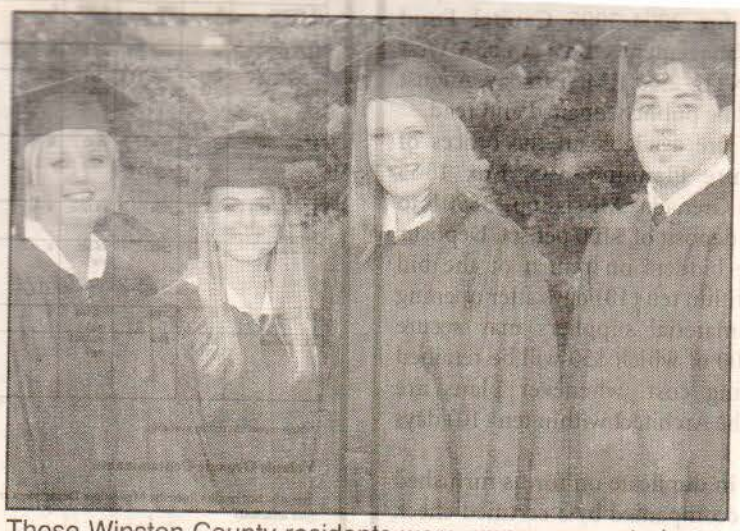
WEEK OF July 18, 2005



These Winston County residents were among area students who received high school equivalency diplomas during the annual GED Commencement held at East Central Community College in Decatur. From left are Jenilee Hunt, Rebekah Crocker, Melanie Eaves and Christopher Sullivan, all of Louisville. Diplomas were presented to the Class of 2005 by ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

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Scott County Residents Receive GED Diplomas at ECCC

These Scott County residents were among area students who received high school equivalency diplomas during the annual GED Commencement held at East Central Community College in Decatur. From left are Shelly Kyzar and Dexter Hunt, both of Forest, and Crystal Harris of Morton. Diplomas were presented to the Class of 2005 by ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

–ECCC PHOTO

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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WEEK OF July 18, 2005

Louisville High School graduates Erica Childress (left) and Melysheaco Savior (right) were among area students who attended orientation activities held July7 at East Central Community College in Decatur. The incoming ECCC freshmen are shown receiving assistance in planning their class schedules. Additional orientation sessions are soheduled Wednesday, July 20 and Friday, August 12. For more information contact ECCC Student Services.

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WEEK OF July 18, 2005

Yount Attends ECCC Orientation

Kelly Yount (left) of Morton was among area students who attended orientation activities held July 7 at East Central Community College in Decatur. During orientation, students receive their approved class schedules for the fall semester, reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms and have photos made for ID cards. Yount is shown receiving assistance in planning her class schedule from Lisa Gorgas, an instructor in the College's Associate Degree Nursing program. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Wednesday, July 20 and Friday, August 12. Fall classes begin Monday, August 22. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 375. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF July 18, 2005

Winston students at college orientation

Numerous students from Winston County attended orientation activities held July 7 at East Central Community College in Decatur.

During orientation, students receive their approved class schedules for the fall semester, reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms, and have photos made for ID cards.

Students participating in the July 7 session and their respective high schools include Margaret Carter, Erica Childress, Nadia Coburn, Joseph Cornelius, Deangelo Frazier, Dana Gale, Joni Mitchell, Chiquita Nicholson, Allison Roach, Melysheaco Savior and Latoya Yarbrough, all of Louisville; Brandi Crosby, Jaimee Jones, Steven Rogers and Jessica Williamson, all of Nanih Waiya; and Contarus Carter, Chauncey Hudson, Bradley Reynolds and Brenton Woods, all of Noxapater.

Also attending orientation activities from Winston County were Jamie Stapleton, Kristen Beasley, Christina Dempsey, Krista Garretson, Megan Miller, Sylvia Goss, Falan Richardson and Stephanie Terry, all of Louisville.

Additional orientation sessions for new students are scheduled Wednesday, July 20 and Friday, August 12.Fall classes begin Monday, August 22.

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WEEK OF July 18, 2005

Porter Receives ECCC Scholarship ~ Jerry Porter of Conehatta was recently presented a nontraditional student tuition scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Porter, 30, plans to major in electronic technology this fall. He received his high school equivalency diploma during the College's annual GED Commencement held in July. Nontraditional scholarships are available to Mississippi residents, 23 years of age or older at the time of initial enrollment, who enroll full-time at ECCC. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 278/279. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF July 18, 2005

Win Honors In Skills USA Contest ~ East Central Community College cosmetology students Tabitha Thomas (left) of Meridian and Heather Mathis of Union placed sixth in Promotional Bulletin Board competition at the 2005 National SkillsUSA Contest in Kansas City, Missouri. The pair advanced to the national contest after winning first-place honors at state competition.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF July 18, 2005

County students attend EC orientation

Students from Newton County were among participants of the June 18 orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur.

During orientation, students receive their approved fall class schedules, reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms and photos made for ID cards.

Students from Newton County attending orientation and their respective schools include:

Newton County: Adam Bout, Ashley Brooks, Kristen Gardner, Roccell Harper, Tarance Hawkins, Barry Hollingsworth, Rico Hughes, Margaret McDill, Joshua McGaugh, Amber Robinson, Amber Tyson, Marcus Viverette, Ackana Wesley and Joshua Yeager.

Newton County Academy: Jessica Cochran, Tommy Harthcock, Joshua Mixon, Marcus Smith and Jason Tune.

Newton High School: Nyiesha Bolds, Jessica Jones, ChaDarris McKee, Satarria Moore and Michael Pientowski.

Union High School: Kristy Boswell, Monica Chesney, Erin Copeland, Matthew Fondren, Sean McElrish, Jordan Robinson, Latasha Warren and Tammy Williams.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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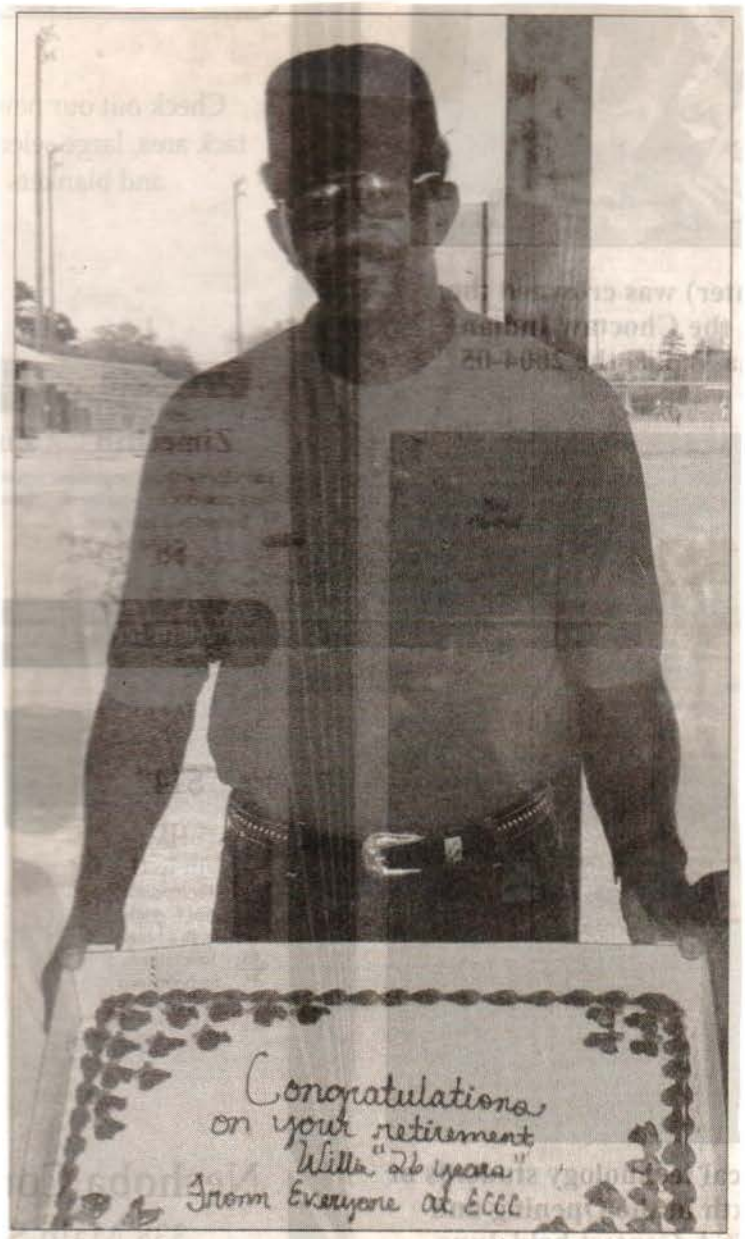
WEEK OF July 18, 2005



Gallaspy Honored for ECCC Service ~ East Central Community College employee Willie Gallaspy of Decatur recently retired following 26 years of service in the College's maintenance department. Gallaspy, shown with grandchildren Malori Gallaspy and Colin Gallaspy, was honored by his co-workers during a retirement lunch held at the College pavilion. Gallaspy said he plans to spend his retirement years doing wood carvings and working on antique cars and trucks. Some of his wood carvings were displayed earlier in the year in the lobby of Burton Library. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓ ...MOCRAT ___

UNION APPEAL ___ ...CORD ___

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ___ MERIDIAN STAR ___

SPIRIT OF MORTON ___ CLARION-LEDGER ___

IMPACT ___

WEEK OF July 18, 2005

Joe Barrett of Decatur was recently selected Workforce Development Coordinator at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. Barrett was previously employed at Choctaw Maid Farms/Tyson since 1990, where he held various positions. He is a former business owner, having co-owned and co-operated Barrett's Dairy and Poultry Farm (currently a timber farm) and Barrett's Quick Stop Convenience Store. Barrett is currently serving as president of the Decatur Lions Club and is a past member of boards of directors for the Decatur Development Association and Newton County Fair Association.

He is a member of Clarke-Venable Baptist Church, where he is active in the youth department.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF July 18, 2005

ECCC COMPETITION WINNERS

ECCC STUDENTS WIN SKILLSUSA HONORS: These surgical technology students at East Central Community College in Decatur placed sixth in the Opening and Closing Team competition at the 2005 National SkillsUSA Contest held June 20-24 in Kansas City, Missouri. Front row, from left, are Kelly Jo McGee of Hickory, Amy Dolan of Union, Ginger Vance of Decatur and Ginger Richardson of Enterprise. Back row, from left, are Andrea Chesney of Little Rock, Jana Smith of Union and Rochelle Graham of Little Rock. The ECCC students advanced to the national contest after winning first-place honors in state

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NEWTON RECORD ✓

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WEEK OF July 18, 2005

ECC student takes 6th in competition

Samantha Partridge, a drafting and design technology major at East Central Community College in Decatur, placed sixth in Related Technical Math competition at the 2005 SkillsUSA Contest held June 20-24 in Kansas City, Missouri. Partridge, a resident of Bailey and graduate of Noxapater High School, advanced to the national competition after winning first-place honors in the state contest.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF July 20, 2005

ECC PHOTO

JOHN CREEKMORE (RIGHT) OF NOXAPATER, A 2005 GRADUATE OF THE MACHINE SHOP TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM AT EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN DECATUR, PLACED SIXTH IN CNC MILL COMPETITION AT THE 2005 SKILLSUSA CONTEST HELD JUNE 20-24 IN KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI. CREEKMORE, A GRADUATE OF NOXAPATER HIGH SCHOOL, ADVANCED TO THE NATIONAL CONTEST AFTER WINNING FIRST-PLACE HONORS IN STATE COMPETITION. HE IS PICTURED WITH DANNY GRESSETT OF DECATUR, ECCC MACHINE SHOP TECHNOLOGY INSTRUCTOR.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF July 25, 2005

ECCC president gives supes update

■ School won't ask county for additional funds this year.

By Robbie Robertson
The Newton Record

East Central Community College president Dr. Phil Sutphin met with the supervisors at their annual meeting to discuss millage from the county.

Sutphin spent about 20 minutes telling the supervisors how East Central impacts Newton County and the accomplishment of the school's athletic teams as well as some individual awards from Newton County students.

"East Central Community College has served the people of Newton County since 1928," Sutphin said. "The college is appreciative of the financial support it has received from Newton County. And East Central continues to provide the county's citizens with quality education in the academic, health-related, technical and career fields and in industrial training needs."

East Central has a total budget of $13.9 million, with only about $1.72 million coming from the five counties that the school serves. In 2004, Newton County provided East Central with $403,090, which was only 2.29 percent of the school's entire budget.

Sutphin said the school would continue to work under a tight budget and did not ask for any additional millage from Newton County. He said the Mississippi Legislature appropriated approximately $95,000 less money for the next budget year. But the Legislature gave an additional $150,000 to establish a new Advanced Technology Center to be located in Philadelphia. Included in the center will be a Productivity Enhancement Lab and a new Industrial Maintenance Program which would benefit Newton County businesses like La-Z-Boy and ESCO.

Airport Road project

Newton Public Works Director Buster Bounds met with the board to discuss the paving of an access road to serve the Newton airport, where the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics is building a new facility.

Bounds said the city and the county had discussed the project several times but the time had come to actually pave the road. Bounds asked the best way to acquire paving for the road and after some discussion, it was decided that the best route would be for the county to buy the materials and the city to reimburse the county. County supervisors also agreed to provide an assistance that was needed with helping pave the 800 feet of road.

Tearing down

Supervisors also discussed the timetable for tearing down of the old Ezell and Mill printing building east of the courthouse. It was suggested that once the building was torn down, that the space could be paved for additional parking for the courthouse. As far as a timetable, it was suggested that early December be appropriate and would be a "nice Christmas present" for Decatur.

In other action, the board of Supervisors:

- Approved the hiring of Lavell Harrell and Marion Ben Haralson;
- Approved repair of landfill loader at cost of $11,430 to Puckett Machinery;
- Approved receipt of three new computers for county election commissioners, paid for by the Secretary of State's office;
- Approved a work session on the county landfill to discuss the wetlands situation after the regular board meeting on Monday, Aug. 1.
- Accepted a $10,470 grant for solid waste assistance.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓
IMPACT _____
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
NEWTON RECORD ✓
MERIDIAN STAR _____
CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF July 25 2005

Harris attends ECCC orientation for upcoming school year

Seth Harris (left) of Forest was among area students who attended orientation activities held July 7 at East Central Community College in Decatur. During orientation, students receive their approved class schedules for the fall semester, reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms and have photos made for ID cards. Harris, a graduate of Neshoba Central High School, is shown receiving assistance in planning his class schedule from Cynthia Odom, an instructor in the College's Associate Degree Nursing program.

—ECCC PHOTO

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

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WEEK OF July 25, 2005

Katrina Bryant of Union was recently selected Director/Instructor for the EMT-Paramedic Technology program at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Bryant, who began her new duties on July 1, is also a member of the College's adjunct faculty. In addition to her teaching duties, Bryant serves as an EMT-Paramedic and education officer at Metro Ambulance in Meridian. She is also a former EMT-Paramedic for Emergystat Ambulance in Vernon, Ala.

A graduate of Newton County High School, Bryant attended ECCC and received EMT-Basic Certification and EMT-Intermediate Certification from Alabama Fire College. She also received EMT Paramedic Certification from the University Medical Center. She is scheduled to receive a Bachelor of Science degree in health-related sciences at UMC in August 2005.

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

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WEEK OF July 25, 2005

O'Neill selected new ECCC hotel, restaurant instructor

Lisa Lampton O'Neill of Meridian was recently selected to serve as instructor for the new Hotel and Restaurant Management Technology program at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

O'Neill, who began her new duties on July 1, previously served as community development coordinator with the Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi.

She is also a former marketing manager for the Lauderdale County Tourism Bureau and held sales and marketing positions at the Holiday Inn Express Hotel and Suites, Quality Inn and Howard Johnson's Hotel, all in Meridian. In addition, she previously served as general manager of the Hampton Inn in Meridian.

O'Neill is a graduate of McComb High School, Southwest Mississippi Community College and the University of Southern Mississippi, where she received a bachelor of science degree in Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Management.

Lisa Lampton O'Neill

She is also Promus certified in general management and holds certification by the American Hotel and Motel Association as a hospitality supervisor.

In addition, she attended the Southeast Tourism Society Marketing College in Dahlonega, Ga.

O'Neill serves on boards of directors for the Meridian Rotary Club; Jimmie Rodgers Foundation; and the East Central Chapter of the Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi. She is a former ambassador for the East Mississippi Business Development Corporation.

She is married to Kurt O'Neill and has two stepchildren, Jesse and Zak O'Neill.

APPEARED IN:

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Business Journal ✓

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NEWTON RECORD _____

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WEEK OF July 25, 2005

Knight Selected ECCC Workforce Development Coordinator

Joseph Knight

DECATUR--Joseph Knight of Union was recently selected Workforce Development Coordinator at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Knight, whose office will be located near the College's Productivity Enhancement Lab at the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Vocational-Technical Center, began his new duties on July 1.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Knight was employed at Chahta Enterprise in Philadelphia since 1995, where he mostly recently served as director of quality assurance/manufacturing/maintenance. He is also a former plant manager and plant superintendent.

He was previously employed with the Mississippi Department of Transportation.

A graduate of Neshoba Central High School, Knight attended ECCC and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in general business from Mississippi State University. He has also received training in Lean Deployment/Lean Manufacturing, Essentials of Management and Global 8-Discipline Approach to Problem-Solving.

He is a member of the Pine Grove Baptist Church, located in the House community, where he serves as a deacon and Sunday school teacher.

He is also a member of the Freedomland Quartet, which travels throughout the Southeast singing Southern Gospel music.

Knight is married to the former Lisa St. Louis of Poplarville. They have a son, Jeff.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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CCC Names 2005 Homecoming Hono

of various honors to be
ring Homecoming 2005
ve been announced by
ociation officials at East
mmunity College in

lumna of the Year is
son Phillips of University
1945 graduate and Scott
e. Phillips is being recog-
many years of volunteer
ious civic and community
has also been honored by
ty Park Civic Association
usiastic dedication to

of Forest was chosen
the Year. Lovett, a retired
member and 1957 gradu-
volved in various civic
ity endeavors. He spent
e Navy prior to joining
ff. Lovett has continued
his association with ECCC by most recently serving as Alumni Association president.

Also being honored are two new members of the College's Athletic Hall of Fame – Dr. Bob Tom Johnson of Forest and Lucy Young of Vicksburg.

Johnson, a 1963 ECCC graduate, helped lead the Warrior basketball team to the state tournament semi-finals and a 22-3 record his sophomore season. He was an honorable mention All-State selection and continued his basketball career at the University of Southern Mississippi. Johnson was also a former basketball standout at Morton High School where he earned All-Little Dixie Conference honors.

Young, a 1971 ECCC graduate and Morton native, experienced a stellar coaching career at Warren Central High School, where she began and successfully led the boys' and girls' soccer teams and girls' slow-pitch and fast-pitch softball squads. She received several "Coach of the Year" awards and other honors throughout her 23-year career. She is also a former volleyball and tennis standout at ECCC where she also served as manager of the Lady Warrior basketball team.

Nan Davis Anderson of Decatur is being honored as the College's Academic Instructor of the Year. Anderson, who joined the ECCC staff in 2004, serves as an instructor in the Associate Degree Nursing program. The Oktibbeha County native is also a former member of the nursing faculty at Calhoun Community College in Huntsville, Ala.

Selected as Career-Technical Instructor of the Year is Lori Hudson Luke of Newton. Luke, who serves as a practical nursing instructor, has been employed at ECCC since 2001. In addition to her teaching duties, Luke serves as an adviser for HOSA (Health Occupation Students of America) and SkillsUSA chapters.

Homecoming activities officially get underway on Friday, Oct. 14 when an Alumni Baseball game is scheduled at Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium. For more information about the Diamond Warrior Alumni contest, contact Coach Jake Yarborough at ext. 374.

Reunion groups scheduled to meet during Homecoming activities on Saturday, Oct. 15, include members of all classes ending in "5"; Classes of 1957, 1958 and 1959; the 1956-1963 men's basketball teams coached by Denver Brackeen; and the Alumni Band and Centralettes.

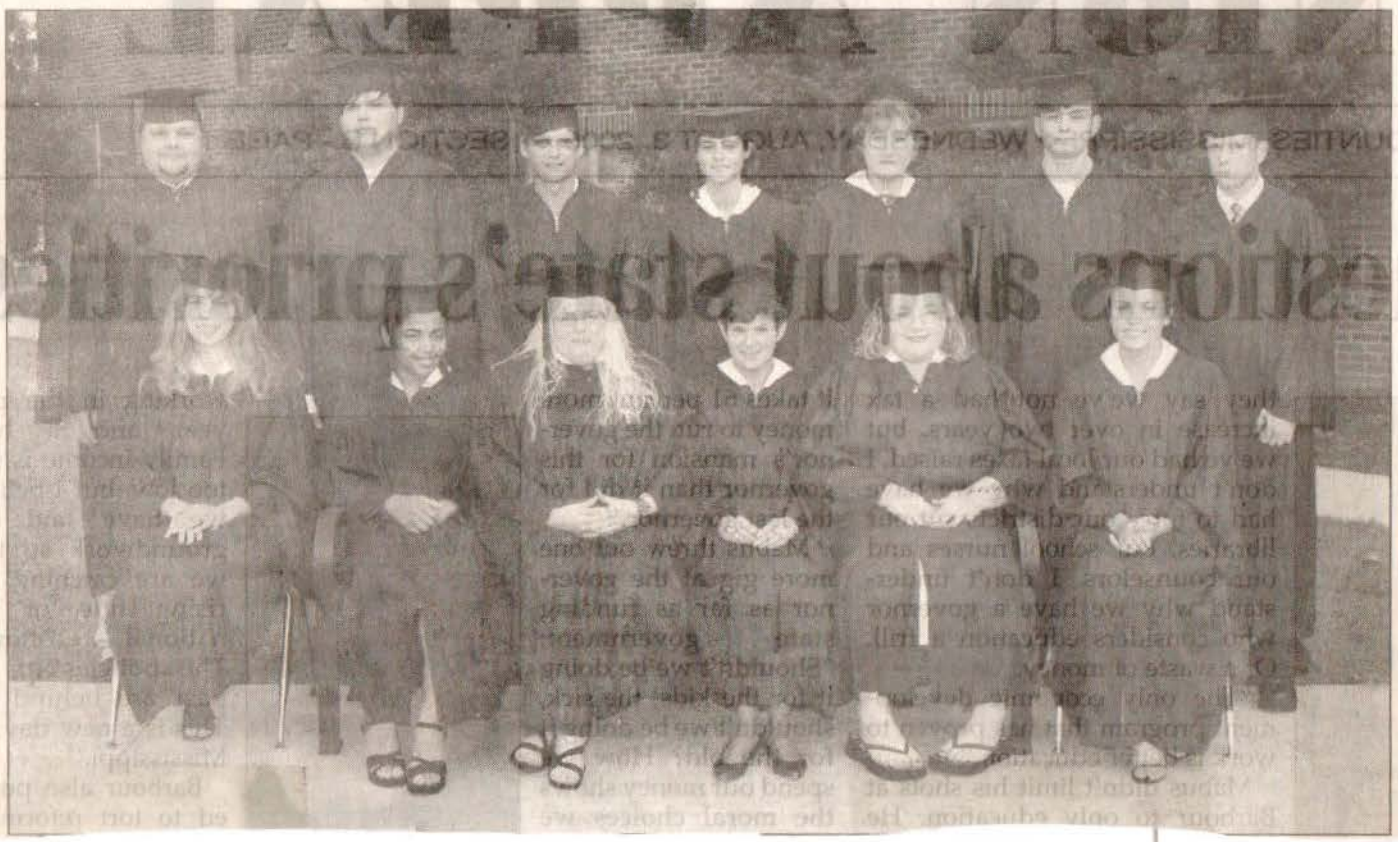
The College will also recognize and honor the 1954-55 and 1955-56 football teams on their 50th anniversary.

A ceremony officia
ECCC Memorabilia
Library is also part c
ties.

In addition, the "Be
exhibit, which will be
the Associate Degree
Building, will be avai
"Between Fences" is
"Museum on Main St
ration between the Sr
Institution and Missi
Humanities Council.

For more informati
Homecoming 2005, co
Hollingsworth, execu
Office of Foundation
Relations, East Centr
College, P. O. Box 129,
39327, Phone 601-635-2
free, 1-877-462-3222, ex
address is sholling@e

08-01-05



Receive GED Diplomas at ECCC ~ Th
Neshoba County residents were amon
dents who received high school equiva
diplomas during the annual GED
Commencement held at East Central
College in Decatur. Seated from left a
Phillips, Sha'Toya Burnside, Crystal
Nancy Schriner, Cyngla Scruggs and
Tolbert, all of Philadelphia. Standing
are Jason Dearing of Union, Juan Ga
Ricky Ellinburg, both of Philadelphia
Hewitt of Union, Judy Pettey and Sha
Creighton, both of Philadelphia; and
Henley of Union. Diplomas were pres
Class of 2005 by ECCC President Dr.
Sutphin. For more information about
College's GED Program, contact the
Adult and Continuing Education, Pho
2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222,
278/279. The email address is mdavis
(EC Photo)

APPEARED ___ LAKE MES ___ SCOTT CO ___ UNION APP ___ WINSTON ___ SPIRIT OF ___ IMPACT ___

WEEK OF 08-05-05

Grimes named ECCC tech prep coordinator

Joan Alawine Grimes of Little Rock was recently selected Coordinator of Tech Prep Education at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, college president.

Grimes, who began her new duties in August, previously served as English and chorus instructor at West Lauderdale High School. She also held teaching positions in Leland and Newton schools. During her tenure at Leland, she received Teacher of the Year honors on three occasions.

Joan Alawine Grimes

In addition, she has served as Professional Development Presenter/Trainer in the Tech Prep office of the Mississippi Department of Education.

She is a member of the National Tech Prep Network, National Association for Tech Prep Leadership, National Council of Teachers of English, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development and Mississippi Theatre Association.

A graduate of Union High School, Grimes holds an Associate in Arts degree from ECCC and a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Education from the University of Southern Mississippi. She is working toward a master's degree at Mississippi State University.

She has a son, Joshua Joyner (Jo-Jo) Grimes, a first-grader at Newton County Elementary School.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER X

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

UNION APPEAL X

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

IMPACT

CARTHAGINIAN

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT X

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF 08-08-05

ECCC NEWS

Evans director of Tech Prep Career Center

Romonica Evans of Newton was recently named Tech Prep Career Center director/recruiter at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president.

Evans, who began her new duties on July 15, has been a member of the ECCC staff since 2003, serving as administrative assistant to the vice president of Student Services. She is also a former teller at Bank of Forest and clerk at Wal-Mart in Newton.

Evans

A graduate of Newton County High School, Evans holds an associate degree in business administration from ECCC and a bachelor's degree in business administration with an emphasis on accounting from Mississippi State University.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

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NEWTON RECORD X

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WEEK OF August 08, 05

ECCC's ABE/GED Classes Underway

DECATUR–Lorene Graham (standing) of Conehatta, an instructor in the Adult Basic Education and General Educational Development (GED) Program at East Central Community College, provides assistance to students (from left) Donald Slattery, Roxanne E. Wilson and Nicholas Broach, all of Hickory, and Priscilla Ealy of Lena in the ABE/GED lab located in Ethridge Hall on the Decatur campus. Classes are offered free of charge from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Monday through Thursday. Mrs. Graham, 86, is an "alumnus" of the program, having received her GED at age 75! She graduated from ECCC at age 78 and has since served as an ABE/GED instructor. For more information about the College's ABE/GED program contact the Office of Adult and Continuing Education, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 279/279. The email address is mdavis@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER X

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NEWTON RECORD X

MERIDIAN STAR X

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WEEK OF 08/08/05

ECCC Nursing Students Tour Miss. State Hospital campus

East Central Community College nursing students of Scott County recently toured the Mississippi State Hospital (MSH) campus. Nursing students are welcomed with a brief overview of the hospital's history and mission and tours of MSH's museum, child and adolescent unit, and forensic unit. MSH regularly hosts tours for nursing students. Nursing students tour the campus as part of their clinical rotation through an affiliation agreement with MSH's Staff Education and Training Services. Pictured are (left to right) Jennifer Hill and Amy McMillan of Scott County.

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES X

UNION APPEAL _____

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WEEK OF 8/22/05

ECCC practical nursing graduates

Receiving practical nursing pins during the annual ceremony held at East Central Community College in Decatur are the above graduates of 2005 who include (first row, second from left) Lou Ann Averett of Union, Tammy Baldwin of Raleigh, Cindy Bryan of Philadelphia and Amanda Davidson of Sebastopol; (second row, from left) Betty Dyess of Philadelphia, Larcenyer Hester of Newton, Jennifer Hill of Lake and Melanie Jones of Lauderdale; (third row, from left) Ryan Loper of Newton, Amy McMillan of Little Rock, Evelyn Moore of Carthage and Alexis Nichols of Philadelphia; and (fourth row, from left) Julie Richardson of Philadelphia, Timothy Wilcher of Carthage, Mandy Wilson of Sebastopol and Kim Withers and Sarah York, both of Carthage. Also pictured are instructors Tammie Rigdon (front row, left) and Lori Luke (front row, right). The pinning ceremony was held August 5 in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER X

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

UNION APPEAL X

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

IMPACT

CARTHAGINIAN X

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT X

NEWTON RECORD

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF 09-05-05

Classes resume at ECCC in Decatur

■ Officials assess damage, reschedule athletic events

Bubby Johnston is vice president for public information at East Central Community College in Decatur, where he has worked since 1987.

By Bubby Johnston
special to The Star

DECATUR — Classes resumed Tuesday at East Central Community College, where officials are still trying to assess the dollar amount of damage sustained on the Decatur campus in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

The college had been closed since Katrina unleashed its fury on Aug. 29.

Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president, sent a campuswide e-mail after the hurricane. He said Ethridge Hall, which houses classrooms and the college's ABE/GED Lab, received the most damage. A section of the roof was destroyed and several classrooms received water damage.

Classes have been relocated to other parts of campus while repairs are made.

Other facilities receiving major damage include the football and baseball fields. The visitors' bleachers on the football field and a section of the press box were destroyed. Both dugouts on the baseball field were flattened.

Many trees were blown down, but none fell on campus facilities. Although unconfirmed, Sutphin said a possible tornado came across the north part of campus. He said many buildings received minor roof damage, and some offices had water damage.

Mike Dearing, the college's physical plant director, read the long list of damages to the Administrative Council Tuesday afternoon.

Sutphin praised Dearing and his maintenance staff for "working long and tirelessly every day, including the weekend and Labor Day, to ensure the readiness of the campus for the resumption of classes."

Many maintenance staff members continue to be without power at their homes.

Sutphin said East Central has extended registration for day, evening and online classes offered for the fall semester.

The deadline to register for day and evening classes is Friday. Students can sign up for online classes through Friday, Sept. 16.

For more information about registration, call the Office of Admissions, Records and Research toll-free at (877) 462-3222, ext. 206, or e-mail address dluke@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES X
UNION APPEAL _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL X
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
NEWTON RECORD _____
MERIDIAN STAR X
CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 9-12-05

ECCC serving as relief receiving site

East Central Community College in Decatur is collecting items to send to victims of Hurricane Katrina, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

"The East Central family wants to do its part by providing much-needed supplies to those in need in the aftermath of this tragedy. We are also soliciting support from neighboring communities in this relief effort," Dr. Sutphin said.

The College's Public Information Office, located beneath Huff Auditorium, is serving as a disaster relief receiving site. Items being collected include medical and first aid supplies, hygiene items, water and school supplies.

Donations are being received through Friday, September 16. Distribution of items received begins the week of September 19. Students representing Service Learning, SkillsUSA and Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa are spear-heading the project.

East Central is also assisting in the relief effort by providing an 18-wheeler used in the College's truck driving program. The vehicle has been designated for the Governor's office distribution network and will be used to transport supplies. Instructors and students in the truck-driving program are participating in the project.

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Sept 19, 05

'Fences' exhibit opens at ECCC

Ribbon-cutting ceremonies were recently held at East Central Community College in Decatur for the Mississippi debut of "Between Fences," a Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition, which is on display in the Associate Degree Nursing Building through Oct. 18. Between Fences is a cultural history of fences and land use. It examines how neighbors and nations divide and protect, offend and defend through the boundaries they build. The traveling exhibit is part of Museum on Main Street, a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and the Federation of State Humanities Councils. Participating in the ribbon-cutting ceremony were (from left) Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director, ECCC Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations; Dr. Barbara Carpenter, executive director, Mississippi Humanities Council; Carol Harsh, co-director and co-founder of Museum on Main Street; Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president; Dr. Lawinia Sparkman, ECCC vice president for instruction; Dr. Kathy Baxter, associate vice president for Research and Development and Government Affairs at Meridian Community College; Carol Andersen, assistant director for programs, Lil Lovette, project volunteer and David Morgan, project specialist for the "Between Fences" exhibit, all with the Mississippi Humanities Council; and Betty Lou Jones, Governor's appointee to the MHC. For more information about "Between Fences" or to arrange tours of the exhibit contact the ECCC Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations. Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 327. The email address is sholling@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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WEEK OF Sep 2005

ECCC presents art exhibit, music

A program of original works by composer Len Bobo (second from the left), who also serves as music keyboard instructor at East Central Community College, and an exhibit of art works by Josh Summers (third from left) will be presented at 7 p.m. on Thursday, October 6 in the Ovid S. Vickers Fine Arts Center in Decatur. Performing vocal selections during the program will be Dr. Chris Jenkins (left), ECCC vocal music instructor, and Vicki Blaylock (right), music keyboard instructor. Also pictured is Bruce Guraedy, Chairman of the ECCC Division of Fine Arts. (EC Photo)

ECCC To Present Music, Art Program October 6

The Fine Arts Department of East Central Community College will present a program of original works by composer Len Bobo, who also serves as music keyboard instructor at the College, and an exhibit of art works by Josh Summers at 7 p.m. on Thursday, October 6 in the Ovid S. Vickers Fine Arts Center.

The special program also features the ECCC Concert Choir, Joyce Tillery, pianist at Central United Methodist Church in Meridian; and vocal-

College and completed the bachelor of music degree from Mississippi College. He received the master of music degree from the University of Tennessee. He has taught in schools in Mississippi and Arkansas.

Selections for the program include choral, vocal solo, organ and piano pieces.

Summers, a graduate of South Leake High School, attended East Central in 2001 and received his art diploma from Stratford Career Institute

life.

According to Bruce Guraedy, art instructor and Chairman of the ECCC Division of Fine Arts, "Summers' works show a wide variety of painting techniques and lighting in various times of the day. All 16 oil paintings are done in the thick paint application called 'impasto.'"

Admission to the concert and exhibit is free and the public is invited to attend. A reception will be held in the lobby following the musical program.

WEEK OF 09-26-05

Physical plant employees from East Central Community College spent some time in Poplarville following Hurricane Katrina helping with clean-up and repair work at Pearl River Community College. Thanks to the help of other community colleges, PRCC was able to resume classes only three weeks after the storm. ECCC employees who assisted with the clean-up efforts included (from left) Wes Chandler, Scott Everett, Damion Russell, Jonathan Merritt, Sean Mowdy, Artie Foreman, Stuart Tune and Adam Foreman. (PRCC Photo)

ECCC staff assists PRCC with hurricane cleanup

After spending two weeks cleaning up their home campus, volunteers from the East Central Community College Physical Plant staff headed to Poplarville, where they assisted workers at Pearl River Community College with cleanup from the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina.

ECCC Physical Plant director Mike Dearing praised his staff for their efforts.

"After working two 60-hour weeks on our campus, including Labor Day, and taking care of damage to their own homes, 10 of our employees volunteered to go to Poplarville to assist with clean-up and repairs to their campus. We were able to send eight of them down there. The other two remained on our campus to keep things running here.

"We had numerous calls from Pearl River as to the quality of the work our people did. I'm very appreciate to my staff and glad that we were able to help out after such a devastating storm," Dearing said.

Mississippi community colleges who assisted, Pearl River Community College was able to resume classes on Monday, Sept. 19, only three weeks after Hurricane Katrina made landfall on Monday, Aug. 29.

"We certainly appreciate what these other community colleges were able to do for us," said PRCC President William Lewis. "Some of their skilled workers, like carpenters, electricians, plumbers and locksmiths were here lending us a helping hand."

Among the community colleges who sent workers to Poplarville were Copiah-Lincoln, Itawamba, East Central, Mississippi Delta, Northwest and Northeast. Workers from other community colleges were expected during the weeks following as PRCC continued to bounce back from Katrina's devastation. Pearl River Community College suffered between $15-25 million in damages from the hurricane.

"Without the help of these workers from the other community colleges,

(Sept. 19)," said Clint Tapper, director of the PRCC Physical Plant, "If we can ever return the favor, we will."

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WEEK OF 09-26-05

Donates to ECCC projects

Kenneth Jones (left), president of the Decatur branch of The Citizens Bank, has provided financial assistance to two projects currently underway at East Central Community College. The bank official presented a check for $1,000 designated for the Denver Brackeen Scholarship and $250 for the "Between Fences" exhibit currently on display in the Associate Degree Nursing Building. The scholarship was established by former members of Brackeen's 1956-1963 Warrior basketball teams. "Between Fences" is a cultural history of fences and land use and is part of Museum on Main Street, a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and the Federation on State Humanities Councils. Shown receiving the bank's contributions are Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president, and Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for foundation and alumni relations. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 09-26-05

ECCC to host Gospel Train Showcase Oct. 1

Some of the area's top gospel performers will be on stage Saturday, Oct. 1 when the Gospel Train Showcase comes to East Central Community College in Decatur.

The free program, described as a concert for "spiritual uplift," gets underway at 8 p.m. in Huff Auditorium.

Providing entertainment will be Spencer Taylor and The Highway QC's, Kings of Joy, R. C. Williams, D-Cross, ECCC Gospel Choir and Future Generations from Truelight MB Church.

For more information contact Tom Wamsley in Forest, Phone 601-469-7548.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF 2/13/05

ECCC's 2005 South County Adjunct Faculty

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WEEK OF 10/03/05

Moore Named Golf Coach At East Central

FROM STAFF REPORTS

DECATUR—James Moore of Forest has been named golf coach at East Central Community College, announced Dr. Phil A. Aulphin, College president.

Moore has served at Forest Country Club since December 2002, where he is also general manager and course superintendent.

The Forest native also coaches the Forest High School golf team, which won its first State Class 3A title in 2004.

Moore said Tuesday he will keep his position at the country club and will continue to coach the Bearcats.

Moore said the new coaching position is welcomed.

"I know the kids and I am all for it," Moore said. "I'm looking forward to it."

Moore will guide an East Central team that includes two players from Forest—Jess Dilley and Arick Ellis—two players from Newton, one player from Decatur and one from Louisville.

Moore

Moore said due to East Central moving from Division 3 to Division 2, more scholarships will be offered. Dilley currently holds the team's only scholarship.

Moore began his career as a golf professional in 1991 at Big Creek Golf Club in Millington, Tenn. He has also served golf and country clubs in Covington, Tenn., St. Joseph, La., Crosby, Texas, Choctaw, Canton, West Point, Prentiss and in Andalusia, Ala.

A graduate of Forest High School, Moore attended East Central Junior College and the University of Southern Mississippi. He also attended PGA Business Schools in Jackson and Destin, Fla., and is a Class A member of PGA of America.

He played golf professionally on the Ben Hogan Tour in 1990, and was a member of the Mississippi Cup Team and Mississippi PGA Makel Cup Team in 2004.

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ECCC Adjunct Instructors ~ These teachers from the Newton County area are members of the East Central Community College Adjunct Faculty for 2005-06. Pictured are (seated, from left) Tonya Nowell (psychology) and Pats Barnett aAccounting), both of Decatur, Tracy Dearing (co puter) of Newton, Stacy Addy (computer) of Decatur, and Sue Kelly (mathematics) of Lawrence; and (standing, from left) David Germany (English) of Union, Larry Gressett (p chology), Bob Jackson (history) and Raymond Clark (mat matics), all of Conehatta; Glen Harrison (CAD) of Little Rock and Shane Williams (criminal justice) of Decatur. Th joined other adjunct faculty members at a pre-session wor shop held on the Decatur campus. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 9/2/05

ECCC Adjunct instructors

These teachers from the Leake County area are members of the East Central Community College Adjunct Faculty for 2005-06. Pictured are (seated, from left) Debra Mason (business office technology) and Lisa Burnside (mathematics), both of Carthage, and Teresa Burns (English) of Lena; and (standing, from left) Charlotte Reeves (human growth and development) of Carthage, Penny Davidson (medical terminology) of Philadelphia, and Sherry Boone (English) and Shannon Kuntz (nutrition), both of Carthage. They joined other adjunct faculty members at a pre-session workshop held on the Decatur campus. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Sept 19 05

Carson, Brownlee direct Wall 'O Sound

Thomas W. Carson begins his twenty-fourth year as director of bands at the College.

Under Carson's leadership, the ECCC band program continues to be recognized for excellence. The Wall O' Sound Marching Band was voted the top community/junior college marching band in the state, according to a poll conducted in 1998 by the Jackson Clarion-Ledger.

Thomas W. Carson

For the sixteenth straight year, the Collegians, EC's rock 'n' roll group directed by Carson, represented ECCC and Mississippi on their annual tour. This year's group performed at Disney World in Orlando, Florida. In previous years, the Collegians have been featured entertainers at Sea World in San Antonio, Texas; Busch Gardens in Tampa, Florida; the South Street Seaport in New York City; and the Summer Olympics in Atlanta, Georgia. The Collegians are also a crowd favorite each year at the Neshoba County Fair. The 2005 appearance marked the 22nd Collegian performance at Mississippi's Giant House Party.

Carson served as president of the Mississippi Community and Junior College Band Directors' Association in 2001-02 and was selected the College's Humanities Instructor of the Year for 2001. He was chosen ECCC's HEADWAE (Higher Education Day à Working Toward Academic Excellence) Instructor of the Year in 1995 and was named a Lamplighter participant in 1992, an annual recognition of the state's outstanding community and junior college instructors. He was selected ECCC's Academic Instructor of the Year in 1991. He currently serves as state chair for the College Band Directors' National Association.

Carson is a graduate of Forrest-Sherman High School in Naples, Italy; East Central Junior College; and Delta State University, where he received bachelor and master's degrees in music education.

He is married to the former Brenda Branning of Philadelphia, who serves as the College's director of financial aid. They have three children, Chris, Jennifer and Jeremy.

Jared Brownlee begins his eighth year as assistant director of bands. His main areas of responsibility includes directing/arranging for the Wall 'O Sound drum line, directing of the concert band and the directing/arranging for the percussion ensemble.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Brownlee served as band director at Southaven High School and president of the Tate/DeSoto Band Directors Association in 1997. He is also the former Director of Bands at Saltillo High School and Guntown Middle School. His experience also includes serving as a graduate assistant and marching percussion instructor/arranger for the University of Mississippi drum line.

In addition to his duties with the EC band program, Brownlee serves as a music instructor. He was a 2000 Lamplighter participant, which recognizes the state's outstanding university and junior college instructors. He is a member of Fifteenth Avenue Baptist Church in Meridian, where he serves as percussionist on the instrumental staff.

Jared Brownlee

A graduate of Senatobia High School, Brownlee holds a bachelor's degree in music education from Delta State University and master's degree in music education from the University of Mississippi.

He is married to the former Roseanne Rice of Tupelo who is an elementary teacher in the Meridian Public School District. They have three children: Jordan, Caleb and Caroline.

Young heads for ECCC Hall of Fame

By Jeff Byrd
jbyrd@vicksburgpost.com

Back in college, Warren Central softball coach Lucy Young was quite the radical.

Young and her student council cohorts helped get the administration at East Central Junior College in Decatur to loosen up its Victorian student code of conduct.

"We were rather radical for our time," said Wanda McPhail, the current head tennis coach at Meridian Community College. McPhail was Young's teammate in volleyball and tennis at East Central and served as treasurer in Young's presidential cabinet.

"We couldn't even wear pants back then, and Lucy helped spearhead that change for us," McPhail said of one of the highlights of Young's term as Student Body President at ECJC in 1970-71.

"Yes, I was extremely active at college," Young agreed. "East Central had this real strict code of conduct and I guess the activist in me came out and I got elected Student Body President.

"The football team wanted to have more time with their girlfriends. Back then, it was only one night a week. And the girls wanted more freedom, like being able to wear pant suits. Before then, we all had to wear dresses. That was my platform and we got some changes made."

Trying to change things for the better has been a hallmark of Young's career after she left East Central. She has been for the past 33 years, coaching both boys and girls sports that traditionally have been overlooked and underfunded.

Because of her lasting impact on the student scene at East Central and her outstanding coaching career at Warren Central, Young was an easy choice for the East Central Sports Hall of Fame. She will be inducted during homecoming activities in October.

"It's a great thing to be recognized for this honor," Young said. "It makes me happy, and it gives me time to reflect. It gives me a sense of gratitude that I attended East Central. They were two of the best years of my life. The whole foundation of my career began there."

And what a career she's had as a coach at WC:

• She coached the Viking boys soccer team for 23 years, compiling a record of 258-63-16, to establish her as the winningest prep soccer coach in Mississippi at the time of her retirement. Her teams won five Central Mississippi Championships, nine district IV-

JON GRIFFIN - THE VICKSBURG POST

Warren Central softball coach Lucy Young holds on to her varsity letter she received in 2002, more than 30 years after she played athletics at East Central Junior College. Young will be inducted into the school's athletic hall of fame.

ball at WC for 29 years, compiling a record of 380-194. Her teams won four league titles before the playoff system was introduced and 11 district titles and one north state title afterward.

• In fast-pitch softball, she has a record of 99-44-1 and has twice been selected the Vicksburg Post's

THE LUCY YOUNG FILE

Warren Central's Lucy Young had has coached soccer, tennis and softball at the high school during her 33 year career:

Boys Soccer	258-63-16 (23 years)
Girls soccer	84-27-2 (8 years)
Slow-pitch softball	383-195 (28 years)
Fast-pitch softball	99-44-1 (6 years)
Tennis	12 years as coach

great of an athlete coming out of Morton High School in Scott County. McPhail begs to differ.

"Lucy was very athletic and Coach (Lucille) Wood saw the potential in both of us," McPhail said.

The only fall sport East Central offered was volleyball. Neither Coach Wood practicing us, we won a state championship.

"I was a manager on her girls basketball team and then played tennis. Wanda was my teammate in both sports."

In fact, the pair teamed up to win the state title in women's doubles for the Lady Warriors.

Still, respect was hard to come by. There were no athletic scholarships for female athletes, and even worse, hardly any recognition for their on the court success.

"We weren't even given (varsity) letters. We just played for the love

WEEK OF 10/10/05

Art exhibit set

Eric Adcock (left) of Sebastopol and Chris Kemp (center) of Louisville will be featured alumni artists during the annual Homecoming festivities at East Central Community College in Decatur. The opening reception for the exhibit, which will feature multimedia works, will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 13, in the lobby of the Ovid S. Vickers Fine Arts Center. Admission is free and refreshments will be served. Also pictured is Bruce Gurnedy, Chairman of the ECCC Division of Fine Arts and art instructor

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF 10/10/05

ECCC PHOTO

Members of the East Central Community College homecoming Court include (from left) freshman maids Kim Cleveland of Union, Laura Beth Wray of Winston Academy, [illegible] of Newton County and [illegible] of Scott Central; queen Sherrell Brown of Forest, maid-of-honor Joy Cavenaugh of Newton County, and sophomore maids Abby Miller of Madison Central, Clancy Cleveland of Union and Allison McDaniel of Neshoba Central.

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East Central Community College

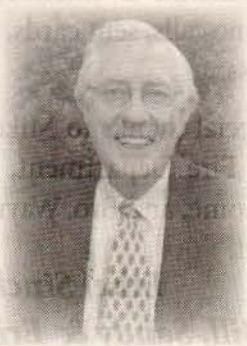
"Keeping Tradition Alive in 2005"

HOMECOMING • OCTOBER 15, 2005

Maxie Doddson Phillips
University Park, MD
"Alumna of the Year"

Bill Lovett
Forest
"Alumnus of the Year"

Lucy Young
Vicksburg
"Athletic Hall of Fame"



Bob Tom Johnson
Forest
"Athletic Hall of Fame"

Nan Anderson
Decatur
Academic
"Instructor of the Year"

Lori Luke
Newton
Career-Technical
"Instructor of the Year"

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

8 a.m.-Registration Begins
East Mall Patio Near Mabry Cafeteria

"Between Fences" Exhibit
Open for Viewing-ADN Building

Refreshments Available in Sullivan Student Center

9 a.m.-Memorabilia Room Grand Opening Burton Library

9 a.m.-ECCC Soccer vs. Meridian (Women) Men's Game to Follow at 11 a.m.
ECCC Soccer Field

10 a.m.-Reunion Groups Meet
1954-55 & 1955-56 Football Teams,Room 60, Newton Hall
Class of 1935-Room 92, Newton Hall
Class of 1945-Room 92, Newton Hall
Class of 1955-Room 90, Newton Hall
Class of 1965-Room 102, Newton Hall
Class of 1975-Room 104, Newton Hall
Class of 1985-Room 106, Newton Hall
Class of 1995-Room 115, Newton Hall
Class of 2005-Room 109, Newton Hall
Classes of 1957, 58, & 59-Room 105, Newton Hall

10:15 a.m.-Awarding of 50th Anniversary Diplomas to Class of 1955

10:30 a.m.-Awarding of Medallions to 50th Anniversary Football Teams

11 a.m.-Warrior Club Annual Meeting
Huff Auditorium

Noon-Alumni Luncheon
Mabry Memorial Cafeteria

2:30 p.m.-ECCC vs. Gulf Coast
Newton County High School

Friday, October 14 • 5 p.m.
ECCC Alumni Soccer Game
Warrior Soccer Field

Thursday, October 13 • 7 to 9 p.m.
Art Exhibit • Vickers Fine Arts Center
Featuring works by ECCC Alumni
Eric Adcock and Chris Kemp
Free Admission and Refreshments

Friday, October 14 • 5 p.m.
ECCC Baseball Alumni Day
Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium/
Chris Gay IV Memorial Field

WEEK OF 10/10/05

ECCC Homecoming Scheduled Oct. 15

East Central Community College has a full day of activities planned for alumni and friends on Saturday, October 15, when the College hosts its annual Homecoming celebration.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. on the East Mall Patio near Mabry Cafeteria. A ceremony officially opening the ECCC Memorabilia Room in Burton Library begins at 9 a.m.

The East Central Community College women's team hosts Meridian Community College beginning with the women's contest at 9 a.m. followed by the men's game at 11 a.m.

Reunion groups are scheduled to meet at 10 a.m. and include members of all classes ending in "5", Classes of 1957, 1958 and 1959; and the Alumni Band and Centralettes.

The College will also recognize and honor the 1954-55 and 1955-56 football teams on their 50th anniversary.

The Warrior Club, which supports the College's athletic teams will hold its annual meeting at 11 a.m. in Huff Auditorium.

Recipients of the annual Alumni Association awards will be honored during a noon luncheon in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Honorees include Alumna of the Year Maxie Doddson Phillips of University Park, Maryland; Alumnus of the Year Bill Lovett of Forest; Athletic Hall of Fame inductees Dr. Bob Tom Johnson of Forest and Lucy Young of Vicksburg; and Instructors of the Year Nan Davis Anderson (Academic) of Decatur and Lori Hudson Luke (Career-Technical) of Newton.

The Warrior football team will take on the Bulldogs of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College at 2:30 p.m. Due to the damage at Warrior Stadium caused by Hurricane Katrina, the game will be held at Newton County High School.

After the football game, a reunion will be held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria for members of the 1956 through 1963 basketball teams coached by Denver Brackeen.

Activities are also scheduled on Thursday and Friday prior to Homecoming.

The Fine Arts Department will host the annual Alumni Art Exhibit from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. The exhibit will feature works by Eric Adcock of Sebastopol and Chris Kemp of Louisville.

An Alumni Baseball game is scheduled Friday, October 14, at Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium. For more information about the Diamond Warrior Alumni contest, contact Coach Jake Yarborough at ext. 374.

The Soccer Warriors will also hold an alumni match at 5 p.m. on October 14 at the ECCC Soccer field. For more information contact Coach Kenneth Thompson at ext. 370.

For more information regarding Homecoming 2005, contact Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director, Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations, East Central Community College, P. O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 327. The email address is sholling@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL X

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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WEEK OF 10/15

ECCC Players to present 'The Mousetrap'

special to The Star

The East Central Community College Players will present Agatha Christie's "The Mousetrap" as its annual fall dinner theater production Oct. 27-29 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus.

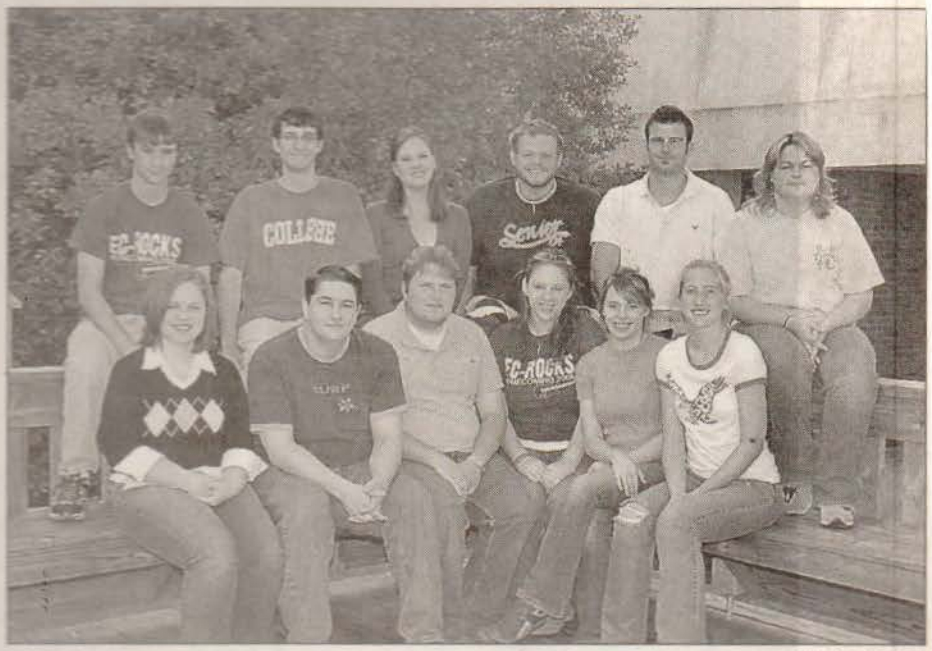
Dinner begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are $12.

The play tells the story of a group of strangers, one of whom is a murderer, stranded in a boarding house during a snow storm.

The suspects include the newly married couple who runs the house; the suspicions nearly wreck their perfect marriage. Other suspects include a spinster with a curious background, an architect who seems better equipped to be a chef, a retired Army major, a strange little man who claims his car has overturned in a drift, and a jurist who makes life miserable for everyone.

Cast members and their roles include: Beth Alexander (Mollie Ralston) of Little Rock; Michael Brown (Giles Ralston) of Morton; Steven Cullen (Christopher Wren) of Carthage; Rebecca Washburn (Mrs. Boyle) of Highland, Ill.; Chris Tramill (Maj. Metcalf) of North Miami, Fla.; Kenya Singleton (Miss Casewell) of Morton; Chris Smith (Mr. Paravicini) of Union; and Danny Harrison (Detective Sergeant Trotter) of Forest.

Monica Chesney of House is the stage manager. Erin Copeland of Union is assistant director. Gail Henderson of Philadelphia is the technician. Assisting with lights and props is Justin Harrell of Carthage. The play is directed by ECCC speech/theater instructor Stan Tucker.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

'WHODUNIT'

Cast and crew members of East Central Community College's production of "The Mousetrap" include front row, from left, Erin Copeland, Chris Tramill, Chris Smith, Rebecca Washburn, Kenya Singleton and Gail Henderson. In the back row are Justin Harrell, Stephen Cullen, Beth Alexander, Michael Brown, Daniel Harrison and Monica Chesney.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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JOURNAL

ECCC student receives PTK Leaders of Promise Award

From press reports

Jaimee Jones of Nanih Waiya, a sophomore engineering major at East Central Community College in Decatur, has been named a recipient of the 2005 Phi Theta Kappa Leaders of Promise Scholarship.

Jones and 29 other community and junior college students from across the nation were selected to receive the $1,000 scholarship to further their associate degree studies.

The purpose of the Leaders of Promise Scholarship Program is to provide new Phi Theta Kappa members with financial resources to help defray educational expenses while enrolled at a two-year college. The program also provides opportunity and encourages students to assume leadership roles by participating in Society programs. Thirty members from 20 different states were selected for their demonstrated leadership potential and scholastic achievement.

"This is a noteworthy honor because it recognizes the potential success of outstanding students such as Jaimee," explains Rod A. Risley, Phi Theta Kappa Executive Director. "The 2005 Leaders of Promise have demonstrated academic excellence and are committed to improving their communities. Jaimee exemplifies the outstanding students enrolled not only at East Central Community College, but at community colleges everywhere."

Jones was valedictorian of her 2004 graduating class at Nanih Waiya High School. At East Central, she serves as president of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and is secretary of the Student Body Association. She also serves as Girls' Bible Study Leader at the Baptist Student Union where she is also a member of "The Way" team. In addition, she is a member of the College's first women's soccer team, Warrior Corps, Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and National Society of Professional Engineers. She also participates in intramural sports.

Phi Theta Kappa, the largest honor society for higher education, has more than 1.5 million members at 1,200 community colleges in all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canada and Germany. Approximately 100,000 students are inducted annually in the Society's 1,200 chapters.

ECCC sophomore Jaimee Jones of Nanih Waiya.

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Pool champ

Alex Hickman (left) of Louisville captured top honors in the intramural nine-ball pool tournament held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Also pictured is J. J. Lott of Morton, who serves as student assistant in the College's intramural program. Not pictured is runner-up Willie Luthers of Decatur.
Coach Scott Hill serves as intramurals director. (ECC Photo)

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WEEK OF 10/10/05

'Between Fences' attracts attention at East Central CC

East Central Community College, in cooperation with the Mississippi Humanities Council, continues its exploration of the cultural history of fence and land use as it hosts Between Fences, a Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibition.

Between Fences will be open for viewing weekdays through Tuesday, Oct. 18.

ECCC was chosen by the Mississippi Humanities Council to host Between Fences, part of the Museum on Main Street project.

After it leaves Decatur, the exhibition will travel to five additional communities in Mississippi before it returns to the Smithsonian.

Through a selection of artifacts, photographs, and illustrations, Between Fences examines the multiple meanings behind this everyday icon.

[illegible] with the community [illegible] Between Fences [illegible] ing the exhibit.

"We are pleased to host this traveling exhibit as part of the college's commitment to the area. To have an exhibit of this caliber at the college is a real opportunity for the community and we extend a special invitation to everyone to visit East Central and view this fine exhibit," said ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Museum on Main Street is a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service, state humanities councils across the nation, and local host institutions.

To learn more visit www.museumonmainstreet.org, www.sites.si.edu, or www.mshumanities.org.

The exhibit is on display in the Associate Degree Nursing Building on the Decatur campus of ECCC.

For more information about the exhibit, telephone the ECCC Foundation Office toll-free at [illegible], ext. [illegible].

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Young, Johnson Set For Induction Into ECCC

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—If ever a person was called to coach and teach, it is Lucy Young, a Morton native who has successfully led soccer and softball programs at Warren Central High School in Vicksburg.

Described as a jump-shot artist and a hook-shot specialist, Dr. Bob Tom

Both Scott County natives will be inducted into East's Athletic Hall of Fame during the annual Alumni Awards Luncheon scheduled in Miller Memorial Cafeteria during Homecoming activities.

Bob Tom Johnson

The 6'5" Johnson, who also had a stellar career at Morton High School and later played for the University of Southern Mississippi.

"Never in my wildest dreams did I envision this honor," said Johnson, who gave credit for his success in athletics to his former coaches – Ken Gordon at Morton High School, Denver Brackeen at

Athletic Hall Of Fame Sat.

East Central, and the late Lee Floyd at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Johnson, who currently operates two small businesses with his wife, Ellen, following a 27-year career in education.

Lucy Young

Becoming a member of the elite group came as quite a surprise to the former Miss ECJC, now in her 33rd year in education.

"Being inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame at this school I love so much is overwhelming. When I was informed that I had been selected, I felt shock, disbelief, joy but most of all gratitude. I am grateful to Miss Lucille Wood for nominating me, the committee for selecting me, and East Central for all it has done and continues to do in my life," Young said.

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WEEK OF 10/10/05

Career options

East Central Community College freshmen Desmond Graham (left) of Noxapater and Allen Greer of Neshoba Central talk with Rosalyn Smith-Howard, a recruiter for the Health Careers Center in Madison, during the Senior College Fair held recently on the Decatur campus. Smith-Howard said she discussed the various careers that are available in the health-related area. The Health Careers Center is a division of the Mississippi Hospital Association. Representatives from the state's four-year colleges and universities also attended the annual event, which was held on the recently-renovated East Mall area. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 10/7/05

RECEIVES ECCC'S HOGUE-BRANTLEY SCHOLARSHIP: Cyrus Doe (left) of Decatur, a practical nursing student at East Central Community College, is the 2005-06 recipient of the Hogue-Brantley Scholarship. The annual award provides $1,000 to a qualified nontraditional student enrolled in the career-technical area. Funded in 2001, the scholarship honors Leake County natives Colt Hogue and Bobbie Brantley Hogue. Mr. Hogue was a former automotive technology instructor at East Central. ECCC alumni Carolyn Hogue Appler and Larry Hogue, former vice president for foundation and alumni relations at the college, established the scholarship in honor of their parents. Pictured with the scholarship recipient is Joe Killens, vice president for student services. Doe is former member of the college's soccer team and is a native of Monrovia, Liberia.

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WEEK OF 10/17/05

East Central homecoming court

Members of the 2005 East Central Community College Homecoming Court were recognized during halftime ceremonies of the East Central/Gulf Coast football game Saturday at Newton County High School in Decatur. Members of the court included, from left, front, freshman maids Kelsi Ables Newton, Casey Cooper of Forest, Laura Beth Wray of Louisville and Kim Cleveland of Union; Queen Sherrell Brown of Forest; Maid of Honor Joy Cavenaugh of Chunky; and sophomore maids Clancy Cleveland of Union, Abby Miller of Madison, and Allison McDaniel of Philadelphia; back, escorts Truitt Pace of Newton, Jess Dilley of Forest, Patrick Peterson of Louisville, Benjamin Ingram of Carthage, Jeremie Jordan of Newton, Daniel Grimes of Chunky, Grant Morris of Philadelphia, Lee Blackburn of Newton and Jason Murphey of Brandon.

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Brown Chosen ECCC Homecoming Queen

FHS Graduate Enjoys College Life

By TAMI K. PHILLIPS
TIMES STAFF WRITER

DECATUR—Saturday was truly a dream come true for Sherrell Brown.

Brown, 19, of Forest, was selected by her peers as the 2005 East Central Community College Homecoming Queen.

"There are no words to describe it," Brown, a bubbly, outgoing young lady, said about being chosen queen. "It's so overwhelming. It felt good to know that my peers and my school chose me for this honor.

Ten girls campaigned for the title of homecoming queen at ECCC this year. Two days of elections were held at the college.

In the run-off election, Brown and two other girls competed for the title before Brown was named queen. Brown is the first Forest resident to be named queen in several years.

The past week was a hectic one as Brown had to get last-minute alterations on her dress. She also had to make sure her hair and nails looked perfect. She enjoyed a pep rally and bonfire with her fellow classmates at the end of the week.

Brown looks forward to having the title of 2005 Homecoming Queen for the next year.

She plans on participating in the Forest Christmas Parade this year and sharing her experience with the city.

Brown is a 2004 graduate of Forest High School where a few of her many honors include Miss Forest High School, Hall of Fame and a variety of Who's Who titles.

Brown was chosen a UCA All-Star Cheerleader and graduated with honors in the top 20 of her class.

Brown said her days at FHS, under the leadership of Principal Billy Wilbanks and Superintendent Skip Lathem, as well as faculty and staff, contributed to her being chosen queen.

"Forest High School built the foundation for me to have this honor," Brown said. "Without them, I would

Please see BROWN, 3B

SUBMITTED PHOTO

East Central Community College sophomore Sherrell Brown (second from left) of Forest was crowned the College's Homecoming queen during halftime ceremonies of the East Central/Gulf Coast football game held Saturday, Oct. 15 at Newton County High School in Decatur. Miss Brown received her crown from ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin (left). Also pictured are the queen's escort – Jeremie Jordan of Newton, and 2004 Homecoming Queen Shelly Ferguson of Hickory.

BROWN

From Page 1B

not have this position."

Brown is a sophomore at ECCC where she is involved in a host of activities. She is a Diamond Girl for the baseball team as well as a Centralette with the Wall of Sound Marching Band.

She is also involved in concert choir, chamber choir and gospel choir and is a member of the Baptist Student Union/Wesley Foundation.

Brown's major is liberal arts. She plans to attend Mississippi State University in the fall where she will pursue a degree in mass communications.

She hopes to eventually become a TV anchor or public relations agent.

"I love to talk and socialize," Brown said with a laugh. "I love to talk to people and I'm interested in the public."

Brown said she has enjoyed her time at ECCC so far and would not trade the experience for anything.

"EC has given me a lot of memories," she said. "I've enjoyed every minute of it so far, both academically and socially."

Many of her memories will include fun times with both old and new friends at ECCC. Staying on campus has definitely enhanced the experience, Brown said.

"There is nothing like dorm life. I have to say that!" she said.

Helping Brown celebrate Homecoming Saturday were many friends and family members, including her parents, Charles E. Brown and Rose Mary Brown. Though her chow dog, Bear Brown, could not attend the ceremony, Brown said she knew he was with her in spirit.

SPIRIT OF MORTON

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WEEK OF _____

Nursing Students participate in orientation at Scott Regional Hospital

East Central Community College 1st semester associate degree nursing students participating in orientation at Scott Regional Hospital are pictured left to first row, Linda Spivey, Forest; Sedonia Smith, Leesburg; Brenda Kirby, instructor; second row, Erica McMillan, Lake; LaShrondra Bradford, Forest; Johnson, Lake; Amanda Miles, Morton; Gina Parker, Leesburg; third row, Shannon Davis, Morton; Sara Stiles, Sebastopol; Bobby Engle, Forest; Walker, Morton; Ashton Hendry, Forest; Brian Waltman, Lake; and Donovan Cooksey, Lake.

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WEEK OF 10/17/05

ECCC Homecoming Honorees

These individuals received various honors presented by the East Central Community College Alumni Association during Homecoming activities held Saturday, October 15 on the Decatur campus. From left are Billy R. Lovett of Forest, Alumnus of the Year; Maxie Doddson Phillips of University Park, Maryland, Alumna of the Year; Dr. Bob Tom Johnson of Forest (a native of Morton) and Coach Lucy Young of Vicksburg (a native of Morton), Athletic Hall of Fame inductees; Lori Luke of Newton, Career-Technical Instructor of the Year; and Nan Anderson of Decatur, Academic Instructor of the Year. (EC

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Harris named assistant softball coach at ECCC

After a two-year standout career as a member of the East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team, Krissi Harris of Decatur has returned to the squad as an assistant coach.

Krissi Harris

Harris posted a .317 batting average in helping lead the 2004 Lady Warriors to berths in the state and regional tournaments en route to a 28-16 record. She also had a triple, two doubles and scored 23 runs. An outfielder, Harris was named to the all-state and all-division teams and was selected an NJCAA Academic All-American. She also received the Lady Warrior award. Harris graduated with honors at ECCC in 2004.

Harris is a 2002 graduate of Newton County High School and helped lead the Lady Cougars to three state titles.

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WEEK OF 10-24-05

EC names Swilley women's assistant coach

Princess Swilley, a former basketball standout at the University of Memphis, was recently selected assistant women's coach at East Central Community College, announced first-year Lady Warrior coach Bill Smith.

Princess Swilley

Swilley, a four-year letter winner for the Lady Tigers, capped her career in 2004, scoring exactly 1,000 career points while helping lead Memphis to the second round of the Women's National Invitational Tournament.

A native of Hazlehurst, Swilley battled through off-season shoulder surgery to end her career as the Lady Tigers' 16th 1,000-point scorer. She also finished her career with 251 assists, 179 steals and 266 rebounds. Swilley played in 113 career games, averaging 8.8 points and 2.2 rebounds while shooting 40.8 percent from the floor. She scored double digits in 50 career contests.

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WEEK OF 11/24/05

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Luke named Career-Tech Instructor of the Year

A special mentor gave East Central Community College practical nursing instructor Lori Luke of Newton, the College's 2005 Career-Technical Instructor of the Year, the inspiration she needed to become not only a good nurse, but a good teacher as well.

"I had a wonderful preceptor when I first became a nurse," said Luke. "She was my mentor and basically taught me how to use the knowledge I had acquired during nursing school. Her name was Emma and I will never forget her."

Luke was honored with other award recipients during the College's annual Homecoming festivities Saturday, Oct. 15, on the Decatur campus.

Luke

She serves as director of the College's Practical Nursing Program. She and one other instructor team-teach most courses, although some courses, such as Pharmacology, she teaches alone.

Prior to accepting the position at East Central, Luke worked as a registered nurse in various areas, predominantly Surgery and Post-Anesthesia Care Units.

On teaching at a community college, Luke said, "I love the small classes that enable you to get to know students on a personal basis. I am thankful for the family/community environment that abounds at the community college level. Plus, being a graduate of East Central myself, I have a special fondness and great memories of ECCC."

Asked how she reaches her students, Luke said "respect. I have respect for them and I expect respect in return," Luke said. "An open-door policy encourages student participation and good communicative dialogue."

Luke received her Associate's Degree from East Central Community College and a Bachelor's Degree in nursing from the University of Southern Mississippi. She has completed additional coursework towards a Master's Degree.

She has been an advisor for Health Occupation Students of America and SkillsUSA. In addition, she was named to Who's Who Among American Teachers.

Luke is a member of the Association for Rural Health and the International Association for Human Caring and has worked with the Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi. She is a member of First Baptist Church in Newton.

She is married to Keith Luke, who works with the USDA in Jackson, and they have two daughters, Morgan, 11, and Maggie, 8. Luke is the daughter of Wayne and Elizabeth Hudson of Newton.

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WEEK OF 10-24-05

Bobo selected Humanities "Instructor of the Year"

East Central Community College music keyboard instructor Len Bobo of Union was recently selected the College's Mississippi Humanities Council 2005 Teacher Award recipient and will present a lecture titled "A Composer Composes Himself – Scattered Reflections of a Mostly Serious Nature" at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus.

Bobo said of the presentation, "It will be a discussion about writing music and particularly experiences in my own life concerning writing and why composers compose. I will also play a piece or two on the organ and piano."

Bobo

Bobo begins his fourth year as music keyboard instructor at East Central and has 30 years experience in education. In addition to teaching, Bobo has served as a professional accompanist and a church music minister.

A published composer, Bobo recently presented a recital of his original compositions in the Vickers Fine Arts Center at East Central. In July, 2005, his organ composition "Appalachian Prelude" was premiered by Dr. Joby Bell of Appalachian State University at the Washington National Cathedral. This past Easter, one of his anthems was performed at First Presbyterian Church of Houston, Texas, and his arrangement of "The Infant King" will be performed by the Houston Baptist University Concert Choir in December.

Among honors Bobo has received are 1997 Distinguished Alumnus Award for the Department of Music at Mississippi College, Arkansas Federation of Music Clubs 1986 Church Musician of the Year, Who's Who in American Music, Who's Who in Entertainment and Who's Who in America. In 2004 he was selected to represent East Central as a Lamplighter, which recognizes outstanding community/junior college instructors in Mississippi. In addition, he served this past year as Dean of the Jackson Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. He is a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Music Fraternity.

Bobo is a graduate of Hinds Junior College; Mississippi College, where he received a bachelor of music degree; and the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, where he received a Master of Music degree. He has completed additional studies at UT.

He is married to the former Pamela Jeannie Moore and they have two daughters, Celeste and Brittany.

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WEEK OF 4/24/05

ECCC names Cornelius men's assistant coach

Brandon Cornelius of Jackson was recently selected assistant men's basketball coach at East Central Community College, first-year Warrior head coach Steve Hampton announced.

Cornelius is a former basketball standout at the University of West Alabama in Livingston, Ala. A two-year starter, the 6-foot-7 forward averaged 10 points, 10 rebounds and five blocked shots during his senior campaign.

He was also a President's and Dean's list scholar in UWA and received a bachelor's degree in physical education in December 2004.

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Homecoming sign contest winners

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes captured first-place honors in the homecoming sign contest at East Central Community College in Decatur. With the winning entry are FCA members, from left, Joey Cavenaugh, of Chunky; Loren Kennedy, of Union, Juliane Jones, of Louisville, Amanda Schmidt, of Carthage, and Lady Warrior softball coach Scott Hill, adviser.

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Area Natives Attend ECCC Class of 1995 Reunion

Members of the East Central Community College Class of 1995 were among groups honored during Homecoming activities held October 15 on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (from left) class members Ronda Jones Henderson of Fulton, Nick Turner of Starkville and Arlene Bates Monk of Forest. Also attending, but not pictured, were Lisa Blanset Addy of Decatur and Brandi K. Smith of Canton.

—ECCC PHOTO

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ECCC family sends disaster supplies to coast

Members of the administration, faculty, staff and student body at East Central Community College in Decatur recently collected 11 pallets of items to send to the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency in Jackson to assist victims of Hurricane Katrina. Items were collected in the College's Public Information Office and were then taken to the ECCC South Campus Gymnasium, where various student and staff volunteers sorted and packed them. Members of the College's Truck Driver Training classes delivered the items to Jackson. Organizers thanked those who donated items and those who assisted in the process in any way. (EC Photo)

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EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

1954-55 and 1955-56 Football Teams Honored at ECCC. Members of the 1954-55 and 1955-56 football teams and cheerleading squads at East Central Community College were honored during Homecoming activities Saturday, October 15, 2005, on the Decatur campus. Front row, from left, Barbara Beavers Flaney of Madison, Thurman Alley of Brandon, head coach Clayton Blount of Decatur, Eugenia Carlton Baucum of Wiggins and Glen Miles of Crystal Springs; (second row, from left) Marcus Gordon of Union, Mickey Burdette of Lanett, Ala., Lester Baucum of Wiggins, James Gordon of Madison and Earl Marshall of Hattiesburg; and (back row, from left), Bill Hecompton of Gulfport, M.E. "Boe" Davis of Cary, N.C., Keith Blalock of Northport, Ala.; Wilmer James of Brandon and Clint Smith of Philadelphia.

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East Central Community College alumnus Van Chancellor (left), head coach of the WNBA's Houston Comets who led the USA women's basketball team to the gold medal in the 2004 Summer Olympics in Greece, is shown presenting Denver Brackeen of Union – his former coach- with an autographed basketball from members of the championship squad during Homecoming activities held recently on the Decatur campus. Chancellor, a member of Brackeen's 1962 and 1963 Warrior basketball squads, was among players who paid tribute to their former coach, who is battling cancer. Members of Brackeen-coached teams from 1958-62 have led efforts to endow a scholarship in honor of the longtime ECCC staff member and All-American basketball player. (EC Photo)

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ECCC beauty pageant set for Nov. 1

East Central Community College will hold its annual Beauty Pageant on Tuesday, Nov. 1, at 7 p.m. in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Admission is $5 for adults and students are admitted free. ECCC students are admitted free with a current ID card.

Twenty-two young ladies will vie for the title of Most Beautiful.

Contestants include Lydia Adkins, April Barnett, Morgan Milling and Lindsay Walker, all of Union; Delynn Agee of Choctaw, Ashley Brooks of Collinsville, Sherrell Brown, Casey Cooper and Jami Maner, all of Forest;

Aly Burton, Haley Harris, Julia Tucker and Amber Tyson, all of Decatur; Elyse Clay of Lena, Amanda Dowell of Edinburg, Kim Faucette of Carthage;

Elizabeth Jackson of Lake, Megan Jones of Rose Hill, Misty Mayes of Newton; Reagan Melton of Philadelphia, Bethany Sharp of Sebastopol and Christina Thomas of Conehatta.

Beaus who were recently elected by the Student Body Association include Colby Amis of Decatur, Christopher Boose of Hickory, Jordan Gibbs of Morton, Marcus Viverette of Stratton and Hastings Westbrook of Little Rock.

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ECCC

FCA rally at ECCC features MSU coach

Mississippi State University assistant baseball coach Russ McNickle will be the featured speaker when East Central Community College's Fellowship of Christian Athletes has its fall rally November 15 on the Decatur campus.

The special program- which includes entertainment by the local Christian rock band Desperate Peace - gets underway at 6:30 p.m. in Huff Auditorium.

McNickle, 41, is in his fifth year as a member of Ron Polk's Diamond Dogs staff and serves as pitching coach. He began his coaching career as a graduate assistant at MSU and later served as assistant coach at Central Florida Community College, Florida Southern College and University of South Florida and was head coach at Meridian Community College prior to rejoining the MSU staff.

McNickle helped lead Florida Southern to a 265-84 mark, five NCAA Division II postseason appearances, three Sunshine State Conference titles and a pair of berths in the NCAA Division II College World Series. The Moccasins won the national title at the 1995 CWS in Montgomery, Ala., after claiming runner-up honors in 1994.

He served as head coach at MCC in 2001 and led the Diamond Eagles to the Miss-Lou Conference championship and a 38-16 record.

A catcher by trade, McNickle earned All-State honors during his prep career at Mobile Christian High School. He continued his playing career at Patrick Henry State Junior College in Monroeville, Ala., in 1984 and 1985 before earning his bachelor's degree at the University of South Alabama in 1988.

McNickle is a member of First Baptist Church in Starkville. He has led the MSU Baseball Team Bible Study for the past three seasons and is also involved in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. McNickle was named FCA's Southeastern Conference Coach of the Year in 2005.

He is married to the former Robin Elliott of Houma, La., and they have a son, Trey, 13, and a daughter Jordan, eight.

Members of Desperate Peace are Colby Amis, Kyle Barrett, Jordan Vance, Caleb Frink, Ryan Monk, Brandon Hughes and Sam Lewis.

The public is invited to attend the program and there is no charge for admission.

For more information contact Coach Scott Hill, FCA adviser, Phone 635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 301.

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Phillips Chosen as East Central Community College's 2005 Alumna of the Year

Dr. Phil Sutphin, president of East Central Community College, presented on Oct. 15 the 2005 Alumna of the Year award to Mrs. Maxie Doddson Phillips, a Pea Ridge native.

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WEEK OF _____

Brackeen Honored by Former Players

Former East Central Community College men's basketball coach Denver Brackeen (seated third from left) of Union was honored by members of his 1956-63 squads during a special program held as part of the College's 2005 Homecoming celebration. The former Warrior athletes led efforts to endow a scholarship honoring Brackeen, who is battling cancer, and presented him with a plaque, which included the following inscription: "Thank you for teaching us the game of basketball but more importantly, how to be successful in life." Seated from left are Raybum Jenkins, Pennington, Ala.; Billy Frank Alford, event organizer, Forest; Brackeen; Arno Vincent of Petal, who was ECCC president when Brackeen was a student-athlete and later hired the ECCC All-American where he remained on staff for 28 years serving in various capacities; and Danny Clark, Chunky. Second row are Kellis Madison, Brandon; Ron Dodson, Denham Springs, La.; Robert Thomas and Clint Smith, both of Philadelphia; Jay Dyer, Knoxville, Tenn.; and Donald Walters, Newton. Back row are Charlie Payne, Florence; Truman Moore, Carthage; Bob Dennis, Gain, Ala.; Sherrell Marshall, Pearl; Tim Duckworth, Weaver; Larry Robinson, Philadelphia; and Dr. Bob Tom Johnson, Forest. (ECCC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF _____

ECCC Collegians To Perform Campus Concert November 14

The Collegians, East Central Community College's rock 'n' roll band, will present their fall campus concert at 8 p.m. Monday, November 14 in Huff Auditorium on the ECCC campus in Decatur.

The popular group will perform hits by Nickelback, Michelle Branch, Fall Out Boy, Kelly Clarkson and many other artists.

Special performing guests will be "Single 7" from Philadelphia. Collegian members and their respective high schools include vocalists Victoria Lopez, Aly Burton, Luke Howell and Colby Amis, all of Newton County, Kailey Johnson of Philadelphia, Matt Jones of Neshoba Central and Lydia Adkins of Union; rhythm section members Grant Morris (guitar) of Neshoba Central, Kyle McCormick (bass) of Forest, Kimberly Bassett (keyboard) of Scott Central and Clanton Blaylock (drum set) of Newton County Academy; and winds Chris Smith (first trumpet) of Union, Doug Kelley (second trumpet) of Sebastopol, Daniel Thomas (alto sax) of Philadelphia and Kevin Brown (tenor sax) of Carthage.

Technicians are Lee Dooley of Lake, Jonathan Walker of Newton County, Josh Swindle of Neshoba Central, Grant Comans of Sebastopol, Andrew Nichols of Union and Stephen Parker of Nanih Waiya.

For more information contact Thomas W. Carson, Collegians director/guitarist, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 228. His email address is tcarson@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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WEEK OF _____

Charles P. and the late Bonnie Saxon Phillips

Phillips Scholarship endowed at ECCC

A Philadelphia couple has endowed a scholarship to assist students planning to attend East Central Community College in Decatur.

Charles P. Phillips, a 1938 ECJC graduate, recently established the scholarship, which he planned with his wife, Bonnie Saxon Phillips, now deceased. The annual award is designated for full-time students who maintained "at least a 'B' average" in high school.

A native of Edinburg, Mr. Phillips is a graduate of Edinburg High School, ECJC and Mississippi State College. He taught school for a few years before serving in the European Theater in World War II. After completing his military duty, he was employed with the Farmers Home Administration until retirement.

Phillips is a Shriner and member of the Masonic Lodge.

See **PHILLIPS**, page 17A

Mrs. Phillips was a native of Houlka and moved to Neshoba County in early childhood. After graduating from Philadelphia High School, she began her career as a buyer for Stubbs Department Store and later served as an office employee of Coca Cola Bottling Company in Philadelphia.

Mrs. Phillips was a member and officer of the Philadelphia Business and Professional Women's Club.

Recipients of the Charles P. Phillips and Bonnie Saxon Phillips Scholarship will be selected by the ECCC Scholarship Committee.

For more information contact Student Services. Phone 601-635-[illegible] or toll free, 1-877-462-[illegible]. The email address is [illegible]

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WEEK OF 11/14

Jane Jackson

Jackson new EC adult ed. instructor

Jane Jackson of Philadelphia was recently named Train the Trainer/Adult Education instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president.

Jackson previously served the past year as Adult Education Instructor/Facilitator/Trainer for the College's ABE/GED program.

Her new duties include teaching adult basic education classes at the College's ABE/GED lab on South Campus and at the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center. She also assists with GED orientation activities and staff development.

A graduate of Manhatten Academy, Jackson holds a bachelor's degree in secondary education/social studies from Mississippi State University. She is also a certified AchieveGlobal Leadership Trainer.

She has a daughter, Angela Spence, a 2005 summa cum laude graduate in aerospace engineering at Mississippi State University employed at Eglin Air Force Base near Ft. Walton Beach, Fla., and a son, Carl Spence, a sophomore at ECCC where he serves as the college mason.

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WEEK OF _____

ECCC to hold Fine Arts Festival Nov. 17

East Central Community College in Decatur will present its Annual Fall Fine Arts Festival at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17, in the Ovid S. Vickers Fine Arts Center. There is no charge for admission and refreshments will be served.

The ECCC concert choir will present a program of various styles of music, including selections from Vivaldi's Gloria, spirituals and traditional Christmas songs. Dr. Chris Jenkins serves as choral director. Len Bolay, who arranged and/or composed several of the selections on the program, serves as accompanist.

There will also be an exhibit displaying works by East Central art and ceramic students. Bruce Gurnedy, Chairman of the Division of Fine Arts, serves as art and ceramics instructor.

For more information contact Gurnedy at [illegible], ext. [illegible], or toll free [illegible], ext. [illegible]. The email address is [illegible].

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF _____

ECCC Workforce Council Promoting Workforce Development

Roger Whitlock (standing), director of the East Central Community College Workforce Development Center, addresses members of the College's District Workforce Council at its recent meeting on the Decatur campus. Among Council members who attended the quarterly meeting are (from left at head table) Council Chair David Mills of Polo Custom Products in Louisville and ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin; and (foreground, from left) Blake Warren, ECCC Productivity Enhancement Lab Trainer; Joseph Knight, ECCC Workforce Development Coordinator; and David Vowell of Philadelphia, president of the Community Development Partnership.

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WEEK OF 11/14

ECCC scholarship honors legendary coach

A scholarship in memory of long-time LSU women's basketball coach Sue Gunter has been established at East Central Community College in Decatur, her alma mater.

The scholarship was initiated by Mrs. Jessie Whittle of Newton, in honor of her former classmate and friend.

Gunter, who died in August of 2005, coached women's basketball for 40 seasons - with 22 years served at Louisiana State University. She led LSU to 13 NCAA Tournaments - including a Final Four appearance - and a 442-221 record. Her Lady Tigers won the WNIT championship in 1985 and captured a Southeastern Conference Tournament title in 1991.

She was twice named SEC Coach of the Year and was a four-time recipient of Louisiana Coach of the Year honors. She is also a former Basketball News National Coach of the Year and Converse Region IV Coach of the Year.

Her overall coaching record - 708-308 - is ranked third in all-time wins in NCAA women's basketball. She was not credited for two years at Middle Tennessee, when her teams were 44-0, or her first four years at Stephen F. Austin, because official records were never turned over to the NCAA.

Gunter was also ranked third in wins and games coached (1016) and fourth in 20-win seasons (22).

In 1980, Gunter served as women's basketball coach for the United States Olympic team. She directed to squad to the title at the Olympic qualifying tournament prior to the Olympics but did not get to compete in the games because of a U.S. boycott.

She was an assistant coach on the 1976 U.S. team which won the silver medal in Montreal. She coached the U.S. National team in 1976, 1978 and 1980.

Among Gunter's numerous honors include induction into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, Women's Basketball Hall of Fame, Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame, Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame.

A Leake County native and graduate of Walnut Grove High School, Gunter attended East Central Junior College from 1957 to 1958. In July of 1958, she transferred to Nashville Business College and played basketball earning All-American honors in 1960. In 1962, she received bachelor's and master's degrees from Peabody College in Nashville. She also did post-graduate work at Texas Women's University.

Candidates for the Sue Gunter Memorial Scholarship - a four-semester award- must be a resident of the College's five-county district and enroll as a full-time student following high school graduation. Applicants are also required to have maintained a "B" average and demonstrate a need for financial assistance.

Scholarship recipients will be selected by the ECCC Scholarship Committee.

For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext., 375. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 11/14/05

ECCC Gospel Choir in concert

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WEEK OF 11/21/05

Visit to Vocational Center

On Friday, November 18, 2005, the Winston-Louisville Vocational Center hosted a meeting of the East Central Community College District of Secondary Vocational Directors. These round table meetings are designed to keep Secondary Vocational Centers and East Central Community College's Vocational Department in touch with current issues and trends of common interest.
Pictured are Clyde Lindley, director of Louisville Vo-Tech; Robert Murphy, director of Philadelphia/Neshoba Central Career and Tech Center; Cindy Stewart, counselor of Louisville Vo-Tech; Maudean Sanders, assistant dean of ECCC; Joan Grimes, Tech Prep Coordinator of ECCC; and Wayne Eason, Dean of ECCC.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 11/21/05

Ladner attends workshop

Monte Ladner, left, director of the Leake County Vocational Center in Carthage, was among area administrators attending a recent workshop at East Central Community College in Decatur to discuss topics of interest to secondary and post-secondary education. Joan Grimes, ECCC Tech Prep Coordinator, right, helped plan the workshop.

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WEEK OF 11/21/05

ECCC Who's Who members

Ten area East Central Community College were selected to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges for the 2005-06 school year, based on academic achievement, involvement in extracurricular activities and nominations from faculty and staff. Honorees included, from left, Shannon Brock, of Edinburg, Tiffany Willis and Amanda Dowell, both of Carthage, and Keely Morgan of Walnut Grove. Not pictured, Kathryn E. Barny and Anthony Engram, both of Walnut Grove, and Jason B. Long and Shirley White, both of Carthage, Christopher Shuler, of Harperville, and Alisha Perry, of Ludlow.

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WEEK OF _____

Numerous ECCC students receive Who's Who honor

Seventy-seven East Central Community College students have been named to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges for the 2005-06 school year.

Students are chosen for the prestigious honor based on their academic achievement, involvement in extracurricular activities and nominations from faculty and staff.

Honorees include the following:

Leake County: Shannon Brock, Edinburg; Kathryn E. Barney, Anthony Engram and Keely Morgan, all of Walnut Grove; Amanda Dowell, Jason B. Long, Shirley White and Tiffany Willis, all of Carthage; and Misty Pigg, Lena.

Neshoba County: Jamaica Hernandez, Choctaw; Alana Davis, Richard Goldman, Danny Johnson, Lee Wayne Johnson, Marsha Lillis, Shonda Nance and Ashley Tolbert, all of Philadelphia, and Beth Ann Richardson of Preston;

Newton County: Lauren Beckham, Melva Clemons, Clancy Cleveland, Rebekah Crenshaw, Beth Crotwell, Jennifer Key, Sandy Guess, Allison McDaniel, Tracy McMahan, Casey Shackelford, Lauren White and Brooklyn Winstead, all of Union; Betty Belvin, Kristin Bufkin, Lori McMullan, Taylor Nichols, Sonia Rodriquez and Kristen Thomas, all of Decatur; Joy Cavenaugh, Chunky; [illegible] and Lindsey Walker, all of Little Rock; Sarah Federick, D'Nice Moore and Kurt Nelson, all of Hickory; Chris Cooley, Marlo Hollingsworth, Misty Mayes and Darren Reed, all of Newton; and Leigh Ann Thrash, Conehatta.

Scott County: Sherrell Brown, Megan Harrell, Jason Lopez, Pharen Nelson, Elizabeth Puckett, Megan Slay and Kristie Usry, all of Forest; Molly Cieglo and Even Snell, both of Lake; Jennifer Elliott Harrison, Pulaski; Christopher Shuler, Harperville; and Alisha Perry, Ludlow.

Winston County: Deidre Coleman, Shamra White Collier, Jeffery Davis, Kevin Gregory, Michael Gregory, Amy Hathorn, Jaimee Jones, Heather Steele and Fran Stevenson, all of Louisville.

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WEEK OF 11/2/15

Hardy selected ECCC biology instructor

Kim Willis Hardy of Philadelphia was recently selected full-time biology instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president.

Hardy served the College as interim instructor during 2004-05 and has been a member of the ECCC Adjunct Faculty since 2000.

She is a former biology and human anatomy instructor at Philadelphia High School and previously taught general science at Kosciusko Middle School. In addition, she is a former science methods instructor and creative writing instructor at Mississippi State University.

Kim Willis Hardy

Hardy has received numerous awards for teaching excellence. She was the 1993 recipient of the Herbert M. Handley Outstanding Teacher Award presented by the Mississippi Science Teachers Association. She also received the 1992 Science and Mathematics Teacher Award from the Mississippi State University Chapter of Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society.

A graduate of Neshoba Central High School, Hardy received bachelor and master's degrees in biology from Mississippi State University. She also has an associate's degree in dental hygiene from Meridian Community College.

She is married to Bobby Hardy, owner of Hardy Tire in Philadelphia. They have three daughters, Carman Hardy, Leigh Willis Payne and Deanna Hardy. They also have one grandson, Mason Payne.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF _____

ECCC CLASS OF 1945: Members of the East Central Community College Class of 1945 were honored during Homecoming activities Saturday, Oct. 15, 2005 on the Decatur campus. From left are: Velma Lou Lewis White of Union, Norma Hollingsworth Kohl of Greenville, S.C.; and Tabitha Lee Mims of Philadelphia. Back row, from left: Katherine Majure Farned of Philadelphia, Edward Milner of Jackson, Dr. L.B. Adkins of Union and Maxie Doddson Phillips of University Park, Md. Phillips was also honored as the College's 2005 "Alumna of the Year."

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 11/21/05

Receive Taylor Scholarships at ECCC

A college education is more affordable for two East Central Community College career-technical students thanks to scholarships provided by Taylor Machine Works in Louisville. Joe Dertinger (third from left) of Philadelphia and Deangelo Frazier (fourth from left) of Louisville, each received $1500 to continue their education in the machine shop technology and welding programs, respectively. Making the presentation were Taylor representatives Rod Shealy (left) and Bobby Ellis. Also pictured are Danny Gressett (fifth from left) of Decatur, machine shop technology instructor, and Gerald Jordan of Carthage, welding instructor. For more information regarding the Taylor Advanced Welding and Machining scholarships, contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 375. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 11/28/05

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ATTEND ECCC CLASS OF 1975 REUNION: Members of the East Central Community College Class of 1975 were honored during Homecoming activities Saturday, Oct. 15, 2005 on the Decatur campus. Seated, from left: Brenda Branning Carson of Decatur, Judy Hurtt of Chunky, Rita Goodman Jackson of Hickory and Peggy Chamblee of Carthage. Back row, from left: Tom Carson of Decatur, Don Peagler of Sandhill, Ron Davis and Bruce Cater, both of Decatur; and Paul Chamblee of Carthage.

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WEEK OF 11/28/05

ECCC CLASSES OF 1957-'58-'59 REUNITE: Members of the East Central Community College classes of 1957, 1958 and 1959 held their annual reunion during Homecoming activities Saturday, Oct. 15, 2005, on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (front row, from left) Jeanette Beavers Thrash of Decatur, Keith Hudson and Linda Ward Hudson, both of Louisville; Sara McGee Moreau of Sebastopol, Nancy Peterson Haggard of Clinton, Lois Blount Cooper of Decatur, Eugenia Carlton Baucum of Wiggins, and Carol Farish Vickers and Donna Rae Munday Johnson, both of Decatur; (second row, from left) Donny K. Hopkins of Jackson, Wilmer James of Brandon, Marge Belk Davis of Jefferson City, Tenn., Corrine Cross Neal of Huntington Beach, Calif.; Carole Pace Henry of Madison, Aleathea Burdette of Lanett, Ala.; Lester Baucum of Wiggins and Don Hummel of Greenwood; and (back row, from left) Harvey Trapp of Newton, Jimmie Rea of Ridgeland, Clyde Mills of Panama City, Fla.; Keith Blalock of Northport, Ala.; Hank Moreau of Sebastopol, Mickey Burdette of Lanett, Ala.; Carl Hollingsworth of Decatur, Sam Partridge of Colorado Springs, Col.; Patsy Moody Vance and James Vance, both of Meridian; and Martha Gunter Smith of Fairhope, Ala.

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WEEK OF 11/28/05

ECCC Students Named to Who's Who ~ These East Central Community College students from Newton County have been selected to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges for the 2005-06 school year. Students are chosen for the prestigious honor based on their academic achievement, involvement in extracurricular activities and nominations from faculty and staff. Honorees include (first row, from left) Lori McMullan of Decatur, Laura Foreman of Little Rock, Marlo Hollingsworth of Newton and Kristin Bufkin of Decatur; (second row, from left) Lindsay Walker and Lauren White, both of Union; Misty Mayes of Newton and Kristen Thomas of Decatur; and (back row, from left) Sarah Federick of Hickory, Kurt Nelson of Hickory and Clancy Cleveland of Union. *(EC Photo)*

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WEEK OF 11/28/05

The Neshoba Democrat, Philadelphia, Miss., November 30, 2005, 9B

Vance Scholarship established at East Central Community College

A scholarship in honor of longtime educator and game official James Vance of Meridian was recently established at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was initiated by Vance's sister, Margaret Vance Scardaci of Cairo, New York, a 1947 ECCC graduate.

Vance, a 1957 ECCC alumnus, accumulated approximately 36 years in the field of education when he retired in 1995 as Assistant Superintendent for the Meridian Public School System.

He is also a former principal, assistant principal and coach at Northwest Junior High School in Meridian and earlier coached football and basketball teams and served on the faculty at Waynesboro Public Schools.

Following his retirement, Vance continued to serve education as a member of the Meridian Public School Board for five-and-a-half years, serving terms as president and vice president.

Vance spent 42 years as a high school football game official and served 32 years as an official for the Mississippi Community/Junior College Football Association.

Among honors received for his expertise as an official is the Butch Lambert Award, which was presented in 1986. The award is given annually to the high school official who most exemplifies the late football and basketball official who served the Southeastern Conference. Lambert was regarded as the SEC's top official when he retired in 1981 after 30 years of officiating.

Now retired from full-time officiating duties, Vance teaches rules of the game to football and basketball officials and coaches, and officiates on a part-time basis when needed.

James Vance

Vance is also a longtime supporter of ECCC and is a former president of the College's Alumni Association. He currently serves as an out-of-district representative.

The James M. Vance Scholarship will be presented annually to an incoming freshman, with preference given to an education major. Applicants must also show need for financial assistance and maintain a 2.0 grade point average.

For more information contact the Vice President for Student Services, East Central Community College, P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 375. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF 11/28/05

Brackeen Scholarship nears $25,000 mark

James L. "Creeper" Nelson, left, of Newton recently presented the East Central Community College Foundation with a check from the Newton County Senior Men's Golf Association designated for the Denver Brackeen Scholarship. Shown receiving the contribution is Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations. Former players on Brackeen's 1956-63 Warrior basketball teams initiated efforts to endow the scholarship, which nears the $25,000 mark. For more information contact the ECCC Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 327. The email address is shelling@eccc.edu. *(EC Photo)*

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WEEK OF 11/28/05

ECCC Students Named to Who's Who

These East Central Community College students from Scott County have been selected to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges for the 2005-06 school year. Students are chosen for the prestigious honor based on their academic achievement, involvement in extracurricular activities and nominations from faculty and staff. Honorees include (first row, from left) Elizabeth Puckett, Megan Harrell and Jason Lopez, all of Forest; (second row, from left) Kristie Usry and Pharen Nelson, both of Forest; Alisha Perry of Ludlow and Megan Slay of Forest; and (back row, from left) Sherrell Brown of Forest, Millie Cieglo of Lake, Kathryn Barney of Walnut Grove and Chris Shuler of Harperville.

–ECCC PHOTO

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WEEK OF 12-5-05

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ECCC students, alumni may qualify for Cooke Scholarship

East Central Community College students and recent graduates might qualify for up to $30,000 in scholarships from the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation.

Through the initiative – the Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship Program – the private foundation will award up to $30,000annually per recipient to help students and recent alumni of community and two-year institutions pursue four-year degrees at any accredited college or university in the United States and abroad. Last year, the Foundation received nearly 800 nominations for these awards.

While 45 percent of all college students in the U.S. attend community colleges, few private funds are available to help students transfer to four-year institutions, in spite of their high levels of ability and need, according to a Foundation spokesperson. The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation scholarships provide funding for tuition, room and board, required fees and books for the length of the undergraduate degree, generally two years. Each award can total up to $30,000 annually, though the amounts will vary based on such factors as the cost of the institution each recipient attends.

The Foundation plans to award approximately 30 scholarships through this program in the spring of 2006 for use during the 2006-07 academic year. It will renew each award in subsequent years based upon student performance.

Current students are eligible, as are alumni who earned a degree from a community or two-year institution since May 2001 and have not since earned bachelor's degree credits. All candidates for the scholarship must be nominated by a faculty representative at their community college or two-year institution. The deadline for nominations is Feb. 1, 2006. The list of faculty representatives and application materials are available on the Foundation's website, www.jackkentcookefoundation.org, or by calling 1-800-498-6478.

(The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation is a private, independent foundation established in 2000 by Cooke's estate to help young people of exceptional promise to reach their full potential through education. Cooke was a businessman and philanthropist who owned such professional sports teams as the Los Angeles Lakers and the Washington Redskins as well as the Chrysler Building in New York City. When he died in 1997, he left most of his fortune to establish the Foundation. Besides the Undergraduate Transfer Program, the Foundation's programs for outstanding students with financial need also include full scholarships for students attending graduate and professional school as well as scholarships to help high-achieving youth develop their talents and abilities throughout high school.)

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WEEK OF 12-5-05

ECCC Ac'cents to present Fall Concert Thursday

The 2005-06 East Central Community College Ac'cents, the College's show choir, will present their annual fall concert at 7 p.m., Thursday in Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Admission is free and the public is invited to attend. Members of the Ac'cents include (front row, from left) technician Luke Howell and vocalist Jessica Cochran, both of Decatur; vocalists Jessica Cager of Union, Hillary Rieger of Pearl, Savannah Barksdale of Philadelphia, JoAnna Daugherty of Carthage and Victoria Loper of Decatur; and technician Jonathan Walker of Decatur; and (back row, from left) vocalists Sam McDill of Decatur, Jordan Gibbs of Morton, Grant Comans of Sebastopol, Anse Rigby of Forest, Christopher Boose of Morton and Anthony Engram of Conehatta. Vicki Blaylock serves as director.

—ECCC PHOTO

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES X

UNION APPEAL X

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NEWTON RECORD X

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 12/12/05

Williams Selected ECCC WIN Job Center Coordinator

Lucretia K. Williams of Lena was recently selected WIN Job Center Education and Training Coordinator at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

In the new position, Williams is responsible for coordinating education and training services provided to individuals interested in attending college and who utilize WIN Job Centers located in ECCC's five-county district.

Williams, who began her new duties on November 1, 2005, has worked as a human resource specialist for most of her career, most recently at HiSan, Inc. in Carthage.

Williams

A graduate of South Leake High School, Williams holds a bachelor's degree in business education from Mississippi State University.

She is married to Micheal Williams and they have two children, Zachary and Brandon Williams.

APPEARED IN:

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ECCC PHOTO

ECCC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Members of East Central Community College's Board of Trustees include (first row, from left) Edsel Cliburn, Union; Rebecca Farris, Morton; Annie Stowers, Forest; William E. Kitchings, Carthage; Prentice Copeland (chairman), Philadelphia; Bill Thames, Newton; (second row, from left) Gary McDill, Conehatta; Ricky Goldman, Philadelphia; Randal Livingston, Louisville; Dr. Danny Lanier, Little Rock; and Vernon Crotwell, Morton; (third row, from left) Frank McCurdy of Morton, Scott County Supt. of Education; V. C. Manning of Philadelphia, Neshoba County Supt. of Education; Royce Shaw (secretary), Forest; Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth, Lake; Dr. Kimsey O'Neal Cooper, Carthage; and (back row, from left) W.B. Jones, Walnut Grove; Jerry Nance, Louisville; David Byars, Philadelphia; Leo Parker, Noxapater; Harry Kemp of Louisville, Supt. of Louisville Municipal School District; and Robert Blount, Union. Not pictured are Jack Winstead (vice chairman), Lawrence; Janie Wilbanks and Leake County Supt. of Education Melanie Hartley, both of Carthage; Eddie Willis, Philadelphia; Beverly Hart, Union; and Patsy Clark and Delane Hudson, both of Louisville.

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WEEK OF 12-12-05

ECCC EMT graduates

These students are December 2005 graduates of the Emergency Medical Technology-Paramedic Program East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (front row, from left) instructor Katrina Bryant and graduates Tina Savell of Philadelphia, Don Larson of Marion, Ron Griffin of Meridian and Chuck Millsaps of DeKalb; and (back row, from left) Tim Rogers of Louisville, Jerry Lawson of Hickory, Kevin Fedrick of Philadelphia, Brad Palmer of Starkville, Merle Bryan of Philadelphia and Chad Murphy of Collinsville. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 12/12/05

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC STUDENTS JOB SHADOW

East Central Community College sophomore automotive technology majors Calvin Patrick (top photo, far right) and Justin Butler (bottom photo, center), both of Lake, recently received valuable work experience by job shadowing at two Forest dealerships. In the top photo, Patrick observes technician Sylvester Lewis (center) of Forest Ford/Chrysler as he checks a vehicle's mass air flow system. Also pictured is Terry Bullock, general manager. Students interested in participating in Work-Based Learning may contact Harris at ECCC in Decatur, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 305.

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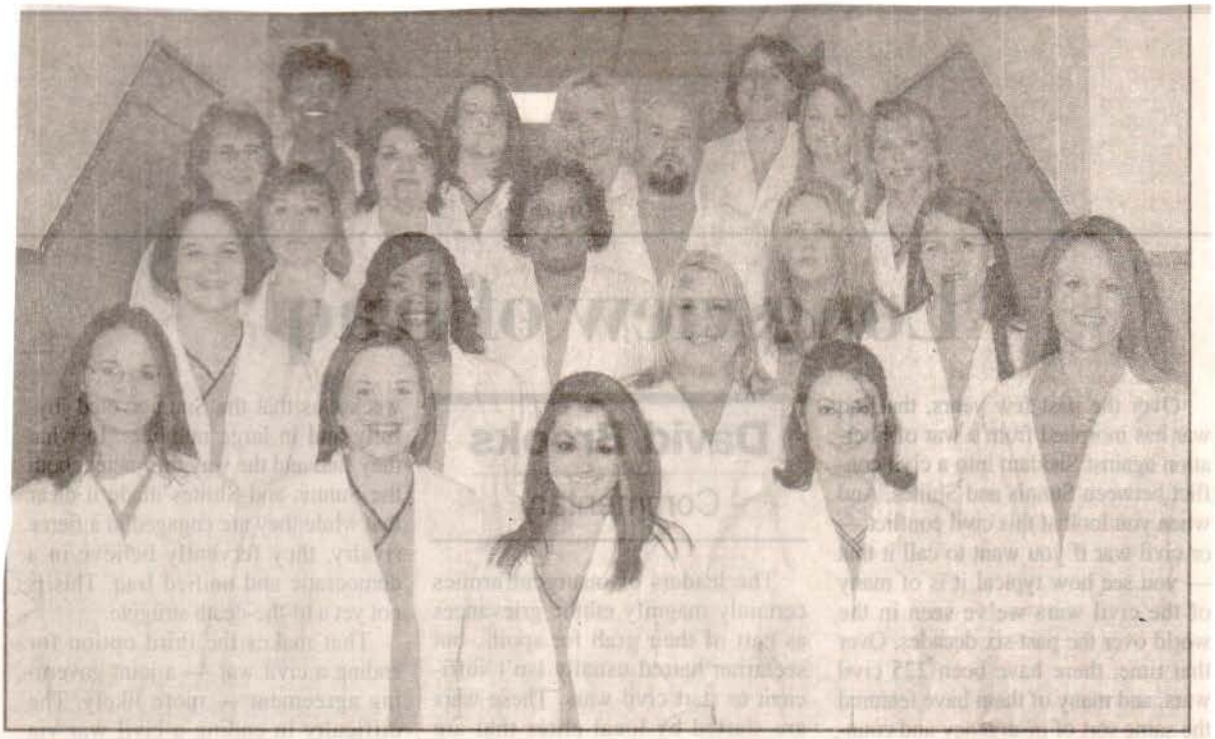
WEEK OF 12/19/05



ECCC Surgical Technology Program graduates

Above are graduates of the East Central Community College surgical technology program who received their pins during a ceremony held December 15 on the Decatur campus. Members of the 2005 Class are (first row, from left) Bridget Jordan, Noxapater; Amy Dolan and Megan McCorkle, both of Union; Crystal Lepard, Lena; and Andrea Chesney, Little Rock: (second row, from left) Kellie Jo McGee, Hickory; Monickala Ellis and Ginger Vance, both of Decatur; and Candy Chesney, Little Rock; (fourth row, from left) Sylvia Majure, Philadelphia; Cathy Bryant, Marion; and Christy Russell, Hillsboro; (fourth row, from left) Betty Belvin, Decatur; Pam Hobson, Noxapater; Nathan Cumberland, Newton; and Rachelle Graham, Little Rock; (fifth row, from left) Johnnie Campbell, Philadelphia; Meridith Carney, Quitman; and Ginger Richardson, Enterprise; and (sixth row, from left) Amee Brackin, Philadelphia; and Jana Smith, Union. Belvin was also named Outstanding Student of the Year. Lee Ann Shirley and Kristie Pilgrim serve as instructors. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 12/19/05

A Remarkable Woman Retires! ~ Lorene Graham (second from left) of Conehatta retired from East Central Community College at the end of the fall semester after serving nine years as an Adult Basic Education/General Education Development instructor. Graham began teaching at East Central after completing the College's GED program at age 75 and receiving her associate's degree at age 79. A reception was held in her honor on Thursday, December 15, where she was also presented with a resolution from the College's Board of Trustees. Pictured are (from left) College president Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, Graham, her husband Dow Graham, Vice President for Instruction Dr. Lavinia Sparkman and Gene Davis, Dean of Adult and Continuing Education. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 12/19/05

ECCC resolution honors longtime board member

A resolution in memory of the late Jerry K. Moore of Carthage, a longtime member of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees, was presented by College officials to members of the Moore family at the trustees' December meeting on the Decatur campus. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin (left) and Board Chairman Prentice Copeland of Philadelphia (second from left) are shown presenting the resolution to Linda Moore, Mr. Moore's widow; step-son Jimmy Pickle and his wife, Stephanie; and daughter-in-law Lita Moore and son Gregg Moore, all of Carthage. Mr. Moore had logged 41 years of service on the ECCC Board until his untimely death on October 5, 2005. He also served six years as Board vice chairman. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 12/19/05

ECCC College Board Of Trustees Reelected to Serve

These members of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees have been reelected to two-year terms following officer elections held at the December 2005 meeting on the Decatur campus. Prentice Copeland (center) of Philadelphia has been selected to serve a sixth two-year term as chairman, Jack Winstead (left) of Lawrence is beginning his fourth term as vice chairman, and Royce Shaw of Forest was chosen to serve a second term as secretary.

–ECCC PHOTO

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WEEK OF 12/19/05

ECCC PBL members assist in Katrina clean-up

The above members of East Central Community College's Phi Beta Lambda chapter spent Dec. 2-3 Long Beach, helping Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College employee Lynn Ladner and her fami with clean-up efforts after Hurricane Katrina. Ladner's home had severe damage to the downstairs are and was one of the few homes left standing on her street. Members helped remove sheetrock from th walls in addition to helping clean up debris inside and outside the home. Pictured are (kneeling in fron Ernest Spivey of Forest; (front row, from left) co-advisor Christy Ferguson, Amelia John of Philadelphi Lori McMullan of Decatur, Lauren Ladner (Ladner's daughter), Lynn Ladner, Ron Foley of Newton, Ki Plaisance of Union and co-adviser Brenda Johnson; and (back row, from left) Delynn Agee Philadelphia, Jamaica Hernandez of Choctaw, Michael Pettey and Crystal Watkins, both of Philadelphi Lucas Ladner (Ladner's son), DeLesa Nowell of Philadelphia and Michael Glenn of Union. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 12/19/05

ECCC PHOTO

STUDENTS HELP REPAIR HOUSE FOR VICTIMS

These Phi Beta Lambda students at East Central Community College in Decatur volunteered their services to the American Red Cross in an effort to help provide emergency relief housing for those in need. The ECCC students helped repair a two-story house (shown above) on 23rd Avenue recently donated to the Meridian chapter by "ripping out wallpaper, scraping off paint, pulling up worn-out carpet, sweeping and mopping floors, and washing windows," according to co-adviser Stella Dickerson who accompanied the students for the day-long activity. Pictured are (front row, from left) Roxanne Wilson of Hickory, Nicole Pittman of Newton, Amelia John of Philadelphia, Ernest Spivey of Forest and Ron Foley of Newton; and (back row, from left) Delynn Agee of Philadelphia, Rebecca Brand of Chunky, Jamaica Hernandez of Choctaw, Jeffery Davis of Louisville, Michael Glenn and Kim Plasisance, both of Union; Rebecca Rogers of Chunky and Delesa Nowell of Philadelphia.

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WEEK OF 12/19/05

ECCC Collects Christmas Gifts for Hurricane Victims ~ East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, recently led efforts to collect Christmas gifts for children of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College employees who lost their homes due to Hurricane Katrina. College administrators, staff, faculty and students "adopted" approximately 120 youngsters who submitted their "wish lists" to Santa Claus. Area churches and schools also participated in the project. Shown with just some of the toys and gifts collected for the Gulf Coast youngsters are (from left) Phi Theta Kappa members Kevin Gregory and Jaimee Jones, both of Louisville; Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, vice president for instruction; Sylvia Wright, PTK co-adviser; PTK member Courtney Averett of Conehatta; ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin; PTK member Joy Cavenaugh of Chunky; and PTK co-adviser Debbie Hammons. The gifts were delivered to the Gautier and Jefferson Davis campuses of MGCCC by the ECCC truck driving program. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 12-26-05

ECCC Photo

Cheerleaders receive awards

These East Central Community College cheerleaders received various awards during the Fall Sports Awards Banquet held recently on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (seated, from left) Megan Jones of Enterprise and Loren Kennedy of Union, Warrior awards; and Kristin Bufkin of Newton County, academic and captain awards; and (standing, from left) Kyle Jones of Nanih Waiya, captain award; and Zach Kilpatrick of Neshoba Central and Chris Boose of Newton County; most improved. Coco Boone serves as cheer coach and presented the awards.

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WEEK OF 12-20-05

MAKES DONATION TO ECCC MEMORABILIA ROOM: A book of memories depicting campus life from 1944 and 1945 at East Central Community College in Decatur is the most recent addition to the new Memorabilia Room located in Burton Library. Velma Lou Lewis White (left) of Union, a 1945 ECJC graduate and native of the Dixon community in Neshoba County, is shown making the presentation to Gloria Johnson (center), head librarian, and Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director of Foundation and Alumni Relations. Johnson said the memory book "holds a wealth of information about ECJC and is a much-needed addition to the college archives because no annuals were printed for 1943, 1944 and 1945 due to World War II. The book is also the first memory book received by Burton Library that gives a glimpse into life at EC in the mid-1940s." To make a contribution to the Memorabilia Room or for more information, contact the Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 327. The e-mail address is <mailto:sholling@eccc.edu>sholling@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF Jan 10

EC Honorable Mention All-Staters

Named to the honorable mention all-state football team from East Central Community College are (seated from left) Derrell Ashford, Jay McMillin, Henry Smith, Willie Hickmon, Derrick Cleveland, Darryl Mapp, Clinton Thomas, and Michael Johnson. Standing are Chris Smith, Brian McNair, Ryan Gale, Cameron Tawater, George Maddox, Jimmy Coleman, Cedric Gray, and Marcus Arrington. *(EC Photo)*

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF Jan 17

Louisville twins giving Tigers long look

By Mark Alexander
malexander@clarionledger.com

Mantrell and Derrell Ashford played pee-wee football together, they played junior high football together and they played high school football together.

And, yes, the twin brothers from Louisville also plan to play college football together.

JSU

"I can't play without him," Mantrell said Thursday.

"No doubt, we would like to stick together," Derrell said.

The only question that remains is where. The Ashfords have attracted interest from several schools, including Jackson State, where the two are scheduled to take an official visit this weekend.

"Jackson State is really high on our list," Mantrell said. "I came down to watch the Capital City Classic, and I really liked it."

Mantrell, a 6-foot-3, 225-pound defensive end, and Derrell, a 5-10, 200-pound linebacker, each started the past two seasons at East Central Community College.

"Both of those guys are really good players," East Central CC coach Terry Underwood said. "Wherever they go, that school will be getting two good ones."

Mantrell, a second-team All-State selection, played in the Mississippi Junior College All-Star game. He runs the 40-yard dash in the 4.6 range. He has attracted interest from New Mexico State, North Dakota State, Central Arkansas, North Alabama and Tennessee-Chattanooga among others.

"I'd say it's pretty much wide open now," Mantrell said. "We're just going to wait and see how things work out. We'll probably wait until Signing Day."

One factor working in Jackson State's favor is the fact the Ashfords would like to stay close to home. "That's what we'd rather do," Derrell said. In addition, JSU assistant coach Zack Grady, a Louisville alum, is a family friend.

"His sister and my sister are good friends," Derrell said.

Taylorsville quarterback Kris Thigpen is also among those scheduled to visit JSU this weekend. Thigpen originally verbally committed to Vanderbilt last August, only to get a call from Commodores coach Bobby Johnson the next day rescinding the scholarship offer.

Thigpen, 6-foot-4, 190 pounds, passed for 2,653 yards and 26 touchdowns as a junior and 1,356 yards and 8 touchdowns this past season as a senior.

Many expect Thigpen to sign with Alcorn State. But he visited Delta State on Thursday, is visiting JSU this weekend and is contemplating a visit to Ohio University.

"They're (Ohio U.) kind of an unknown quantity right now," Taylorsville coach Shannon White said. "They're just getting film on him. I think it's pretty wide open.

"Kris is a good quarterback, and I've coached enough good ones to know," White said. "He can flat out throw the football. He's a pocket passer. If he was a scrambler, he'd be in the SEC right now."

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WEEK OF Jan 17

EC's Home signs with Central Ark.

East Central Community College football standout Kelvin Horne is the most recent member of the Warrior squad who is continuing his athletic career at a four-year college or university.

Kelvin Horne

Horne, a 6-foot-2, 235-pound linebacker/fullback, recently enrolled at the University of Central Arkansas for the spring 2005 term, announced ECCC head football coach Terry Underwood.

Horne played linebacker for EC during his freshman year and moved to fullback for his sophomore campaign. He was the third-leading tackler in the state in 2003 with 68 solo stops and 15 assists.

Last season he had 43 carries for 412 yards and two touchdowns. He was named to the honorable mention All-State team following the 2004 season.

The University of Central Arkansas is located in Conway, Ark.

Underwood said additional Warrior football players are expected to sign letters of intent on National Signing Day in February.

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WEEK OF Jan 31

Underwood happy with ECCC's class

By Marty Stamper
staff writer

DECATUR — East Central Community College head football coach Terry Underwood announced the signing of 33 incoming freshmen for the 2005 football team Wednesday morning on the school's campus.

Of the 33 newcomers, 19 are from ECCC's five-county district.

"I'm very happy," Underwood said. "We got what we feel like is the best of our district, and you've always got to start there. Out of district, we've probably done better than we have in recent years.

"We got a good variety of kids from a lot of different good programs across the state, and I think we've done well in our Tuscaloosa County signees.

"The bottom line is we think this group is going to be a very solid group."

Good enough to hang with the likes of Pearl River, Hinds, and Jones?

"We hope so," Underwood said.

Underwood signed four players from Philadelphia — defensive back/wide receiver Jeremy Holmes (6-0, 180), fullback Dustin Crockett (6-0, 220), offensive lineman Kerry Hudson (5-11, 270) and offensive lineman Johnathan Pickens (6-3, 315).

Newton County quarterback/safety Colby Amis (5-10, 175) inked with the Warriors.

Also bound for Decatur are Neshoba Central defensive lineman Kenyon Boatman (6-2, 245) and fullback/linebacker Kevin Marshall (5-10, 200).

Three of the newcomers are from Noxapater — tight end/defensive end Dedrick Bates (6-2, 240), running back/linebacker Desmond Graham (5-10, 200), and quarterback DeAngelo Carter (6-0 190).

> *We got a good variety of kids from a lot of different good programs across the state, and I think we've done well in our Tuscaloosa County signees.*
>
> **East Central CC head coach Terry Underwood**

linebacker Alfred Pettway (6-1, 220) of Wilcox Central.

Eight more ECCC products sign letters

Eight members of the 2004 East Central Community College football team signed with four-year schools on Wednesday, bringing the total to 15 off last year's team to continue their careers.

Being able to get his players to the next level is something ECCC head coach Terry Underwood stresses in his recruiting each year.

"That's 15 right now, and I look for three or four more to sign out of our group of 21 (sophomores)," Underwood said. "We're proud of that.

"(Linebacker) Sed Eichelberger hasn't signed yet, and I know he'll sign. He's going to take a trip to Murray State and Southwest Missouri. He just hasn't visited everybody that he wanted to.

"Then we've got a couple more like (strong safety) Cedric Gray and (offensive tackle) James Ozment that will sign.

Four signees come from Louisville — defensive back Michael Sims (6-2, 175), linebacker/safety Jermaine Glass (6-0, 175), safety Caleb Reed (6-0, 180), and offensive lineman Mentral Ledbetter (6-0, 270).

Other district signees include running back/linebacker Anthony Johnson (6-2, 220) of Union, safety Chance Parhm (6-0, 190) of South Leake, linebacker Mitch Bradford (6-0, 185) of Scott Central, defensive lineman/fullback Jerry Triplett (5-11, 260) of Carthage, and linebacker/defensive end Jason Qualls (6-2, 190) of Forest.

Out-of-district signees are defensive end Keith Spann (6-2, 220) of Clinton, running back/wide receiver Ken Chathman (5-10, 180) of Hillcrest Christian School in Jackson, defensive back Gary Lindsey (5-10, 175) of Laurel, defensive end/tight end Kenny Fuller (6-3, 230) of Madison-Ridgeland Academy, wide receiver Curtis Smith (5-11, 185) of Mendenhall, safety Kruz Long (6-2, 195) of Jackson Provine, offensive lineman Ross Tew (6-4, 280) of Stringer, defensive lineman Carlos Moffett (6-2, 260) of Taylorsville and wide receiver Randall Lofton (6-2, 180) of Wayne County.

Tuscaloosa County signees are wide receiver Alan Stewart (6-3, 185) of Holt, Ala., defensive lineman Jesse Badgewell (6-2, 280) of Paul W. Bryant High School in Tuscaloosa, running back/wide receiver David McCants (5-10, 180) of Tuscaloosa County High School and offensive lineman Brad Snyder (6-2, 270) of Tuscaloosa County High.

The lone signee counting against the out-of-state total is

"We keep a list of the players here who sign (with four-year schools) on a computer, and when we go out recruiting, we show that to all the kids. A wide variety of kids go to a wide variety of places and levels.

"We tell them that we can't promise any certain level, but we want them to know that they'll be promoted from here and have an opportunity to continue their education and play. I think that's a big selling point."

Eichelberger had planned on signing with UAB before Blazers coach Watson Brown withdrew the scholarship offer late in the recruiting stage.

Both Mantrell Ashford, a 6-foot-2, 235-pound defensive end/linebacker, and strong safety Derrell Ashford (5-10, 195) of Louisville inked with the University of North Alabama.

Mantrell was a second-team all-state pick and played in the MACJC All-Star Game. He had 43 solo tackles and 17 assists to go with a team-high five sacks.

Derrell had 38 tackles and 10 assists along with an interception. He was honorable mention all-state.

Wide receiver Derrick Harris (6-2, 185) of Union signed with Jacksonville (Ala.) State University. Harris had 679 receiving yards and scored five touchdowns. He was a first-team all-state selection and played in the all-star game.

Offensive lineman Derrick Cleveland (6-2, 280) of Newton County inked with Belhaven College. He was honorable mention all-state.

Defensive lineman Michael Johnson (5-9, 255) of Newton County, tight end Cameron Tawater (6-2, 230) of Philadelphia and tight end/defensive end Willie Hickmon (6-5, 215) of Lake all signed with Mississippi College.

Johnson, Tawater, and Hickmon were all honorable mention all-staters.

Free safety Robert McNair (6-3, 190) of Florence also signed with the University of North Alabama. He had 36 tackles and 15 assists along with one interception.

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Tuesday, February 08, 2005

JUCO NOTEBOOK: East Mississippi focuses on local recruits

Monday, February 7, 2005 11:37 AM CST

Roger Carr's first recruiting class at East Mississippi Community College focused heavily on Lauderdale County.

Twelve of EMCC's signees hail from Lauderdale County, and another -- Chris Gordon of Southeast Lauderdale -- is expected to join the Lions' recruiting class today.

On signing day a year ago, just three of East Mississippi's signees came from Lauderdale County.

-- Will Bardwell

ECCC's Eichelberger inks

with Murray St.

East Central linebacker Sed Eichelberger became the 16th sophomore out of the 21 on the 2004 roster to sign with a four-year school as he inked with Murray State on Thursday.

Eichelberger was a third-team J.C. Grid Wire All-American.

-- Marty Stamper

MCC tennis teams

finalizes scheduled

Meridian Community College tennis coach Wanda McPhail released the Eagles' and Lady Eagles' spring schedule last week.

The only change from MCC's tentative scheduled, which was released two weeks ago, was the men's and women's matches against Belhaven. The matches at the Northeast Tennis Center will be played on April 5, originally the matches were to be held on April 6.

MCC's tennis teams open the season on Saturday with two matches in Jackson. The Eagles and Lady Eagles start play on their home court on Feb. 19, with matches against Central Alabama and Gulf Coast Community College.

McPhail said she is still working on her lineup for the fall season.

"Everybody is working hard," McPhail said. "For the men and women, anybody could play 1-6 right now."

McPhail has set her women's doubles rotation for the upcoming season.

Britley Kimbriel and Amy Cole will be the Eagles' No. 1 duo; Ana Claire Marascalco and Amy Frazier will be the No. 2 tandem; and Casey Hedgepeth and Summer Boudreaux will be the No. 3.

"They played together in the fall as teams, and we are going to keep them paired up at the start of the season," McPhail said.

-- Tony Krausz

ECCC coach to receive pie

in the face for cancer

Either East Central Community College head football coach Terry Underwood or head baseball coach Jake Yarborough will soon have pie thrown in his face and a spouse will be the guilty party.

During halftime of the Lady Warriors' home basketball game against Meridian Community College on Feb. 21, the two coaches will participate in a ECCC's Relay for Life team's cancer fund raiser.

Event organizer Stacey Hollingworth said a collection for each coach will be taken during the first half of the game, and the coach who raises the most money will have a pie thrown in his face by his wife.

All proceeds from the fundraiser will go to the American Cancer Society.

-- school reports

On the soccer recruiting trail

Meridian Community College head soccer coach Alex George is nearly finished putting his men's and women's teams together for next season.

George said he has almost filled out all 25 scholarships for the men's team, and he has five spots open on his women's club.

"For the guys, we have some nice aces coming in," George said. "I feel pretty confident about the group we have coming in, and I think

we will be strong on all four corners.

"With the women's team, I feel we are moving in the right direction," George added. "I've recruited hard, talking with between 50-60 recruits from around the state. There seems to be more seniors this year than in the past."

George said he expects to have his rosters set for the 2005 season at the end of the month.

-- Tony Krausz

MCC on the diamond

The Meridian Community College baseball team is just six days away from starting the 2005 season.

The Eagles, who advanced to the Junior College World Series for a second straight year in 2004, will start play this year on Saturday with a double-header on the road against Pensacola (Fla.) Community College.

"We are at the point in the season where we are really ready to play," said first-year Eagles head coach Chad Caillet. "Time will tell if we are ready to play."

MCC opens its home schedule on Feb. 15 with a double-header against Kishwaukee.

-- Tony Krausz

Soccer Eagles give back

Meridian Community College's soccer program held a camp for young players on Jan. 24-26.

Eagles and Lady Eagles head coach Alex George said the three-day camp drew about 60 players to MCC's campus. The cost of the camp was $60 per player.

"We had good weather, and a lot of kids who will be starting their youth leagues soon," said George, who had 20 players from the MCC men's and women's squads help him run the camp.

"It was a good way for my players and myself to give back to the community. A lot of the kids at the camps also come to our games, and it was a way for us to get to know them."

-- Tony Krausz

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WEEK OF Feb 7

Underwood signs 33 for 2005

by Marty Stamper

East Central Community College head football coach Terry Under-wood announced the signing of 33 incoming freshmen for the 2005 football team Wednesday morning on the school's campus.

Of the 33 newcomers, 19 are from EC's five-county district.

"I'm very happy," Underwood said. "We got what we feel like is the best of our district, and you've always got to start there. Out of district, we've probably done better than we have in recent years.

"We got a good variety of kids from a lot of different good programs across the state, and I think we've done well in our Tuscaloosa County signees.

"The bottom line is we think this group is going to be a very solid group."

Underwood signed four players from Philadelphia — defensive back/wide receiver

Continued on 7A... See Underwood...

Underwood...

Continued from 5A...

Jeremy Holmes (6-0, 180), fullback Dustin Crockett (6-0, 220), offensive lineman Kerry Hudson (5-11, 270) and offensive lineman Johnathan Pickens (6-3, 315).

Newton County quarterback/safety Colby Amis (5-10, 175) inked with EC as well.

Also bound for Decatur are Neshoba Central defensive lineman Kenyon Boatman (6-2, 245) and fullback/linebacker Kevin Marshall (5-10, 200).

Three of the newcomers are from Noxapater — tight end/defensive end Dedrick Bates (6-2, 240), running back/linebacker Desmond Graham (5-10, 200), and quarterback DeAngelo Carter (6-0, 190).

Four signees come from Louisville — defensive back Michael Sims (6-2, 175), linebacker/safety Jermaine Glass (6-0, 175), safety Caleb Reed (6-0, 180), and offensive lineman Mentral Ledbetter (6-0, 270).

Other district signees include running back/linebacker Anthony Johnson (6-2, 220) of Union, safety Chance Parhm (6-0, 190) of South Leake, linebacker Mitch Bradford (6-0, 185) of Scott Central, defensive lineman/fullback Jerry Triplett (5-11, 260) of Carthage, and linebacker/defensive end Jason Qualls (6-2, 190) of Forest.

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WEEK OF Feb 21

ECCC Football Players Continuing Careers

These East Central Community College football players are continuing their careers at four-year colleges and universities after signing the dotted line on National Signing Day February 2 during a ceremony in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are defensive lineman/linebacker Mantrell Ashford and his brother, strong safety Derrell Ashford, both of Louisville, who signed with the University of North Alabama; wide receiver Derrick Harris of Union, Jacksonville State University; free safety Robert McNair of Florence, University of North Alabama; and (standing from left) offensive lineman Derrick Cleveland of Newton County, Belhaven College; tight end Cameron Tawater of Philadelphia, Mississippi College; defensive lineman Michael Johnson of Newton County, Mississippi College; and tight end/defensive end Willie Hickmon of Lake, Mississippi College. Not pictured are strong safety Cedric Gray of Lake, who also signed with Mississippi College, and Sed Eichelberger of Noxapater, a Murray State (Kentucky) University signee. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

EC hires new offensive coach

Special to The Record

Mike Volarvich, recognized as one of the top offensive minds in the National Junior College Athletic Association, has been hired to run the offense at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Warrior athletic director/head football coach Terry Underwood.

Volarvich

Volarvich, 28, whose hiring was approved at the April meeting of the College's Board of Trustees, served the past three years as an assistant coach at Blinn College in Brenham, Texas.

He served as offensive coordinator in 2003 when the Buccaneers broke 15 school, conference, and national records while leading the NJCAA in offense averaging 52.8 points and 558.7 yards per game.

See **COACH**, Page 2B

ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central Community College quarterback Robbie Morse will be back for the 2005 season after injuring his knee in 2004.

ECCC, EMCC PLAN SCRIMMAGE THURSDAY

Special to The Record

East Central Community College will conclude spring contact drills by scrimmaging longtime rival East Mississippi Community College at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, April 14 at Warrior Stadium on the Decatur campus. The public is invited to attend the scrimmage and there is no charge for admission.

Warrior head football coach Terry Underwood said 41 players participated in spring drills, which began the week of March 21.

Underwood said he was "very pleased" that the squad completed the three major goals set for spring workouts.

"We did what we wanted to accomplish. We successfully placed personnel where they needed to be, we worked a lot on fundamentals, and we were able to install our base defensive and offensive philosophy. However, we

See **GAME**, Page 2B

Coach

From Page 1B

Volarvich was co-offensive coordinator in 2004 when the Buccaneers finished second in the nation, averaging 44.6 points and 469 yards per contest. Blinn completed the 2004 campaign by defeating Jones County Junior College 18-14 in the Golden Isles Bowl Classic in Brunswick, Ga.

Volarvich also coached quarterbacks and wide receivers during his tenure with the Buccaneers.

Underwood said Volarvich, who recently joined the Warrior coaching staff and is assisting during spring drills, plans to implement a "wide-open attack" for the ECCC offense.

"Mike will bring a lot of multiplicity to our offense. We'll have a more open attack than we've had in the past; it will basically be a spread offense. He's planning a unique passing attack that will enable us to attack defenses with a lot of different schemes. We'll also run a no-huddle offense, which will be a new look for us. We're real excited about Mike joining our staff; he brings a lot of knowledge and enthusiasm to our football program," Underwood said.

In addition to serving as offensive coordinator, Volarvich will coach quarterbacks and wide receivers and serve as the team's academic adviser.

Volarvich is a also a former assistant at Pearl River Community College in Poplarville and served as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Cabrillo College in Aptos, Calif. He served as wide receiver coach at PRC in 2001 when the Wildcats led the nation in offense with a 460.5-yard average per contest.

UNION APPEAL ✓
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL
SPIRIT OF MORTON
IMPACT
NEWTON RECORD ✓
MERIDIAN STAR
CLARION-LEDGER
DEMOCRAT ✓
WEEK OF April 11

WEEK OF April 8

ECCC completes spring scrimmage

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
Staff Reporter

East Central football coach Terry Underwood got a chance to see his 2005 team in limited action this past Thursday, and he was pleased with what he saw.

The Warriors scrimmaged with the East Mississippi Community College Lions for a couple of hours. They worked on passing, blocking and running the football. Then the teams went through three 10-play series of a limited scrimmage.

"I feel good about where we are at this point," Underwood said. "I was very happy with our defense. We have six starters returning next season, and this is from a group that finished No. 3 in the league last year."

For the most part, East Central held the Lions offense in check. East Mississippi did not score a touchdown in the scrimmage.

The Warriors, however, scored every time they touched the ball. Quarterback Elijah McFadden connected with Chris Lark on two long touchdown passes.

Robbie Morris, who started for the Warriors last year until he injured his knee, participated in passing drills and completed nine of 10 passes. Morris did not participate in the scrimmage.

"Robbie has been released to play but we didn't want to take a chance of him getting hurt," said Underwo "He should be ready to go in Augus

Photo by Kyle Ca

East Central Community College's Cornelius Carraway attempts to avoid two East Mississi Community College defenders during a scrimmage at ECCC on Thursday.

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓
NEWTON RECORD ✓
MERIDIAN STAR _____
CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF April 18

EC wraps up spring drills

By Robbie Robertson
The Newton Record

Don't look now but things are changing for the East Central football team.

After two straight losing season, coach Terry Underwood capped off one of his best springs ever with a scrimmage against East Mississippi Community College Thursday.

Fans got a glimpse at the Warriors new up-tempo offense and saw a pair of 70-yard touchdown passes in the scrimmage.

"I was happy with it, I thought we got a lot of good out of it," Underwood said. "I thought it was a positive way to finish the spring. We made some great improvements and I like what we are doing on the field. I also think that most people who saw what we were doing like what they saw."

The fans got a glimpse of new offensive coordinator Mike Volaravich's no-huddle system.

"It will be fast-paced," Underwood said. "We opened two drives with screen plays and that's not something you see here often. We don't have this system down but I liked the progress we've

See **ECCC**, Page 2B

ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central Community College defender George Lowe lays a lick on an East Mississippi Community College running back in a spring-ending scrimmage Thursday.

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

ECCC

From Page 1B

made. With only three weeks of spring, it's hard to put everything in on offense. But I was very excited and a little surprised at how well the kids did with the system. They enjoy playing and practicing in an offense like this."

Not to be left out, Underwood praised his defense for their hard-hitting approach to the spring.

"As in year's past, I think our defense is our strong point," Underwood said. "Our coaches did a good job of implementing the defense and we had kids flying to the football. We didn't give up any big plays."

Now Underwood and his staff turn their attention to the summer where they will be introducing a new system. Instead of waiting for the fall reporting date, Underwood said that the majority of the signees will be enrolled in summer school and working out at the school in June.

"We have talked about doing this for some time but we committed to doing it this summer," Underwood said. "This is the first signee group that we will have with us during the summer. Other schools are doing it and starting ahead. It's time for us to start doing the same."

PHOTOS BY ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

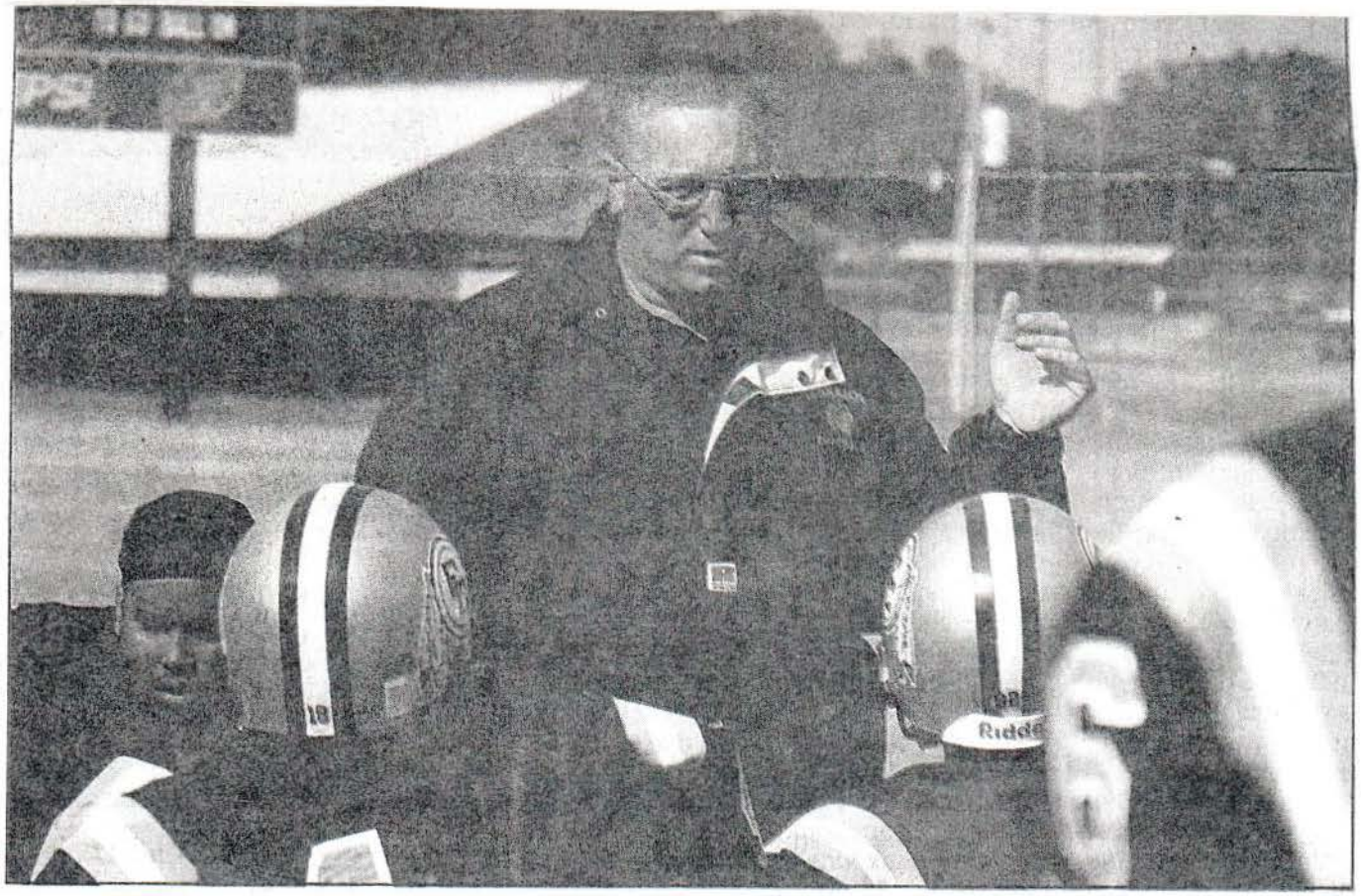
At top, East Central's Marvin Prude brings down an EMCC receiver. Above, EC's Joe Mingo breaks loose for a score. To the right, EC's Chris Lark gets his facemask pulled by an EMCC defender.

Underwood said they will be doing strength and conditioning drills along with working on the offense. He said coaches can be on the field with players but without a ball. Or the players can be on the field with a ball and the coaches in the stands with no verbal communication.

"I'm real excited about what we are doing," Underwood said. "There are a lot of changes going on right now. I'm excited, our players are excited and our coaches are excited. And I think a lot of our supporters are excited."

Underwood said players will start reporting on Aug. 8 with out-of-state players and Aug. 9 for in-state players with the first day of fall practice on Aug. 10. The Warriors open the season at home on Sept. 1 with Northwest Community College.

WEEK OF April 18



ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central Community College football coach Terry Underwood talks to his football players following an end-of-spring scrimmage with East Mississippi Community College. Underwood said he was pleased with the team's new offense and the team's play on defense. **See story, Page 1B.**

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 6/27/05

ECCC won't be 'road Warriors' in '05

This is the second in a series of looks at the area football teams for the 2005 season.

by Marty Stamper

For the first time since 2002, the East Central Community College Warriors will have their football schedule as much in their favor as it's going to get.

For both of the last two seasons, the Warriors have played five road games and only four home games in the MACJC's unique nine-game season.

"For the first time in three years, we've got five home games," ECCC head coach Terry Underwood said. "I'm tickled to have that. It's always tough on the road whatever level you're at, so we're excited to have five home games."

The Warriors hope to put that to their advantage early as three of their first four games are slated for Warrior Stadium.

"Our first two games are at home and three of the first four," Underwood said. "They're all against quality opponents and you just feel better playing them at home.

"Last year, we opened up with a three-hour ride to Northwest and then we turned around and go three hours to Itawamba.

"Our road trips this year aren't bad. The longest trip will be down to Southwest. We have East Mississippi and Jones, which aren't over an hour and a half, and Copiah-Lincoln, which is about two hours and 15 minutes.

"Every game is important, but we've got a lot of big games at home. We've got the defending national champion in Pearl River, we've got Gulf Coast, who I think will be as good as anybody in the league; we've got Hinds, and two of the best out of the North Division in Northwest and Itawamba.

"The schedule is better for us than it has been in several years."

The Warriors open up with Northwest on Sept. 1 and Itawamba on Sept. 8 in a pair of home games. After a road trip to Southwest Mississippi on Sept. 15, ECCC returns home to take on Pearl River on Sept. 22.

Terry Underwood

ECCC closes out September at East Mississippi on the 29th and opens October on the 8th at Copiah-Lincoln.

Home games with Gulf Coast (Oct. 15) and Hinds (Oct. 20) precede the regular-season finale at Jones on Oct. 27.

"I'm hoping that Pearl River and Hinds aren't as good (as last year), but you know they'll be very good," Underwood said. "I think Gulf Coast is the sleeper of the whole South Division. It would not surprise me to see them have a banner year. They came on strong last year.

"Co-Lin and Southwest are going to be a lot better and Jones is Jones. They're going to win and be successful.

"I think we're going to be much improved. I feel good about this football team. I think the South (Division) is going to be very tough again, but I think it's going to be closer than it has been in recent years."

In an effort to keep up with the other league members, the Warriors have spent much of June on campus preparing for the 2005 season.

"It's something that we've been wanting to do," Underwood said. "Our coaching staff has made a commitment to be here in the month of June and our kids have too. With the kids that are staying on campus and going to school and the kids that are commuting, we're averaging right at 50 kids every day working out Monday-Thursday. We can't do anything but get better out of that."

Fans attending ECCC's home games will notice a much-improved lighting system this fall.

"We're going to have new lights and they're going to be a little bit higher and a little bit stronger," Underwood said. "We're excited about that. It's something that's been needed."

Players will report on Aug. 9 with the first practice set for Aug. 10.

East Central CC

Sept. 1	Northwest
Sept. 8	Itawamba
Sept. 15	at Southwest
Sept. 22	Pearl River
Sept. 29	at East Mississippi
Oct. 8	at Copiah-Lincoln
Oct. 15	Gulf Coast
Oct. 20	Hinds
Oct. 27	at Jones

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WEEK OF July 18 2005

www.meridianstar.com

EMCC, ECCC will not

By Tony Krausz
sports editor

The numbers just wouldn't work out for East Mississippi Community College and East Central Community College to play football at Meridian High School's Ray Stadium this year.

Discussions between EMCC — which is scheduled to host the regional-rivalry game this year — and Meridian High were unable to come up with a viable playing date for the two school's football programs.

EMCC is scheduled to host ECCC on Sept. 29 — a Thursday, while Meridian High is scheduled to play district-rival Hattiesburg on Sept. 30 — a Friday.

> *The East Mississippi and East Central rivalry is important, and it would have been an honor for the game to be played at Meridian High School.*
>
> Meridian High athletic director Jermaine Brown

Because of the Wildcats' home game on the 30th, the option for EMCC and ECCC

Football

From Page C1

will take on Itawamba Community College in Columbus High School's football stadium at 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 15.

Carr said a game at Ray Stadium will be revisited next year. The Lions coach said ECCC or Hinds Community College would be the most likely opponents his team would play in Meridian.

EMCC will host Hinds in the first game of the 2006 regular season and would have control of when and where that game is played. The Lions travel to play ECCC next season, and the Warriors would decide when and where that game is played.

"We have a good group of kids from Meridian High School playing for us, and I would like in the next two years before this class goes through for this group to play in Meridian again," Carr said. "I would like to give the folks in Meridian a chance to see them in Scooba and their own backyard."

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
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NEWTON RECORD _____
MERIDIAN STAR ✓
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July 18, 2005

play in Ray Stadium

playing at Ray Stadium on Oct. 1 — a Saturday — was looked at, but that date is the same as Mississippi State's home game against LSU.

"The East Mississippi and East Central rivalry is important, and it would have been an honor for the game to be played at Meridian High School," said Meridian High athletic director Jermaine Brown. "We were unable to confirm the date and time. We looked at several scenarios, but it just wouldn't fit."

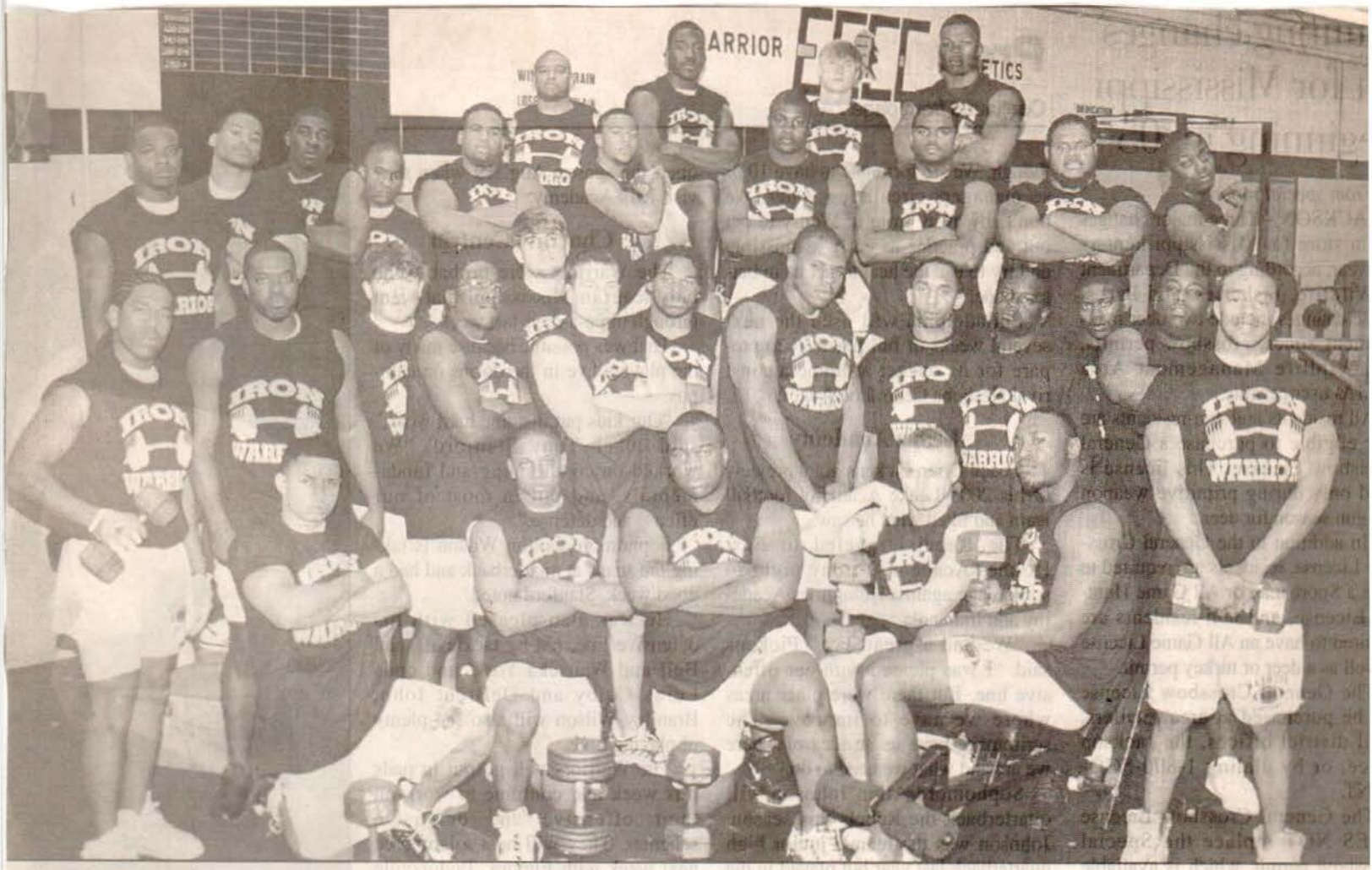
The game site for EMCC and ECCC has return to the Scooba campus of EMCC, and it will kick off at 6:30 p.m.

"Part of it is that there are only so many Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays to play high school, junior college and collegiate games, and there are many factors that can affect how you draw a crowd," said Roger Carr, EMCC's head football coach and athletic director. "Sometimes you can work these things out, but other time it is hard to move things around. We were not able to work it out this year."

EMCC will play one of its football games on a high school campus this year in one of the program's recruiting areas. The Lions

See **Football**
Page C3

WEEK OF 08-08-05



ECCC's 'Iron Warriors'

Receiving special recognition for successfully completing strength and conditioning goals during spring workouts are the above members o the East Central Community College football team. "Iron Warriors" for 2005 and their respective high schools include (first row, from left cornerbacks John Thornton and Nick Robinson, both of Morton; offensive guard Josh Moore, Neshoba Central; defensive end Courtne Coleman, Louisville; and cornerback Marcus Arrington, Heidelberg; (second row, from left) defensive back George Lowe, Columbus; line backer Paul Tolbert, Clinch County (Ga.); offensive lineman Justin Hamilton, Edinburg; linebacker Derrick Qualls, Forest; kicker Ryan Gale Oak Mountain (Ala.); free safety Anthony Stanford, Louisville; offensive guard Montero Baker, Columbus; defensive end Greg Hathorn Louisville; wide receiver Ricardo Smith, Carthage; tailback Terrance McFadden, American Heritage (Fla.); linebacker Demetrious Bishop Batesville; and center Nathan Weaver, Columbus; and (third row, from left) cornerback Joe Mingo, Clinch County (Ga.), wide receivers Chri Lark of Pickens County (Ala.) and Alex West of Southeast Lauderdale; tailback JiMichael Gordon, Hillcrest (Ala.); center Javares Dobbins Tuscaloosa County (Ala.); offensive lineman Ryan Jones, Bay Springs; linebacker Ivon Hickman, Lake; defensive back/wide receiver Jariu Neal, Pickens County (Ala.); nose guard George Maddox, Tuscaloosa County (Ala.); wide receivers Patrick Woodward of Winston Academ and Cornelius Caraway of Newton; linebacker Marvin Prude, Carrollton (Ala.); defensive tackle Greg Cooley, Heidelberg; and cornerbac Rayshawn Smith, Paul W. Bryant High School (Ala). (EC Photo)

LAKE MESSENGER		CARTHAGINIAN	
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES		NESHOBA DEMOCRAT	X
UNION APPEAL	X	NEWTON RECORD	✓
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL	X	MERIDIAN STAR	
SPIRIT OF MORTON	X	CLARION-LEDGER	
IMPACT			

08-8-05

ECCC to play more at home

By Marty Stamper
staff writer

DECATUR — After back-to-back years of having only four home games, the East Central Community College Warriors will get five games at Warrior Stadium this fall.

And ECCC head coach Terry Underwood isn't complaining one bit.

"For the first time in three years, we've got five home games," Underwood said. "I'm tickled to have that. It's always tough on the road, whatever level you're at, so we're excited to have five home games."

The Warriors hope to put that to their advantage early as three of their first four games are slated for Warrior Stadium.

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WEEK OF 08-08-05

ECCC

From Page C1

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MERIDIAN STAR X

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WEEK OF 08-15 05

East Central features new look on

from school reports

A new offense will be on display by the East Central Community College football team in 2005, and head coach Terry Underwood hopes the new look will help the Warriors return to the state playoffs for the first time since 2001.

Terry Underwood

Underwood, who is in his eighth year in leading the ECCC program, says fans should definitely enjoy the fast-paced action of this year's offense.

"It will be a more wide open attack with a no-huddle concept," Underwood said of the new system, being installed by first-year offensive coordinator Mike Volarvich, a former offensive coach at Blinn Community College in Brenham, Texas, one of the top scoring teams in the nation during Volarvich's three-year stint in working with the offense.

Underwood noted that Volarvich, who joined the EC staff prior to spring drills, has been a part of or served as offensive coordinator of the number one or two offensive teams in the nation in three out of the last four years.

The Buccaneers averaged almost 47 points and 470 yards per contest in 2004 and ended season action by defeating Jones County Junior College in the Golden Isles Bowl Classic in Brunswick, Ga., site of East Central's victorious bowl appearance in 1996. The Volarvich-guided Blinn offense broke numerous school, conference and national records in 2003 while leading the NJCAA in offense with 53 points and 559 yards per game.

"Coach Volarvich comes with high credentials and has obviously been successful in running this type of offense. It is a very proven system; it's a very successful system; it's one our kids will enjoy playing in; and I think our fans will see a lot more excitement as far as big play opportunities are concerned," Underwood said.

Underwood said the wide open, no-huddle concept — which will be unveiled against Northwest Mississippi Community College in the season-opener Sept. 1 in Decatur — provides several options for the Warrior offense.

"We can be fast-paced and up-tempo or we can slow it down if we want. We will try to take what our opponent's defense will give us, and in turn we'll try to get the ball to the guys who can make plays. I thought we did a good job running the offense in the spring, but we still have a ways to go to be successful," Underwood stated.

Underwood said sophomore quarterbacks Robbie Morse, a 6-foot-3, 220-pound product of Walton County High School in Defuniak Springs, Fla., and Elijah McDonald, (6-2, 180) of Morton,

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER X

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL X

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

08-15-05

offense for 2005 season

will operate the offense.

"Robbie was our starter last year until he was sidelined by a knee injury, and Elijah is a transfer from Alcorn State University and originally signed with Jackson State University. Both are very capable and had success running the new offense during spring drills. We are very confident in their abilities and both will see a lot of action this fall," Underwood said.

Although Morse played in just six games last year, he was among the state's top quarterbacks, completing 54-of-104 passes for 699 yards and three touchdowns. He averaged 116.5 yards passing per contest.

Underwood also commended the two freshman quarterbacks — Deangelo Carter (6-foot, 190) of Noxapater and Colby Amis (5-10, 175) of Newton County — who will serve as "very capable" backups. Amis is also expected to see action as a receiver.

The receiving corps will be led by returnee Chris Lark, a 6-2, 190-pound former standout at Pickens County High School in Reform, Ala. Lark was one of the top receivers in the state in 2003 with 28 receptions for 524 yards and two touchdowns. He averaged 18.7 yards per catch.

"Lark has exceptional speed, is a big target and has soft hands to catch the ball. He had a great spring and we're expecting him to have a great season," Underwood said.

Underwood said newcomer Lenny Boatner (5-11, 190), a transfer from the University of Hawaii and a Winston Academy product, is a welcomed addition to the receiving corps.

"Boatner is a good receiver and has good size. He redshirted one year and had some playing time last fall. He also had a good spring," said Underwood.

Assigned to the slot position is returnee Letez Fortune, a 5-foot-4, 160-pound product of South Leake High School.

Underwood said of Fortune,

Continued on page 21...
See ECCC...

08-15-05

ECCC...

Continued from page 13...

"He's a small guy, but very explosive. He has good hands and knows what to do with the ball in the open field."

Other receivers include freshmen Alan Stewart (6-3, 185) of Holt, Ala., Curtis Smith (5-11, 185) of Mendenhall, who will mostly play the slot position, and Ricardo Smith (5-10, 175) of Carthage.

In the backfield, the top returnee is Terrance McFadden, a 5-10, 205 tailback from American Heritage High School in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. McFadden was one of the state's leading rushers last season, amassing 772 yards on 188 carries, a 4.1 yard per carry average. He also averaged 85.7 yards per contest and scored six touchdowns.

"McFadden was our top rusher last year and is also a great receiver out of the backfield," Underwood said. "He'll add a lot not only to our running game but in the passing attack as well."

Also in the backfield will be freshmen David McCants (5-10, 180) of Tuscaloosa County and Desmond Graham (5-10, 200) of Noxapater.

Vital to the success of any offense is the offensive line, and Underwood stated this year's group is "more experienced and much improved.

"Javares Dobbins (5-10, 290) will be our anchor at center. He started a lot of games for us last year at either center or guard," Underwood said. Dobbins is a former standout at Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County.

Other top returnees are guards Montero Baker (5-10, 255) and Nathan Weaver (5-10, 300), both of Columbus, and Josh Moore (5-10, 280) of Neshoba Central, who moved from the defensive side to offense during spring workouts and is expected to contribute at the tackle or guard spot.

Hathorn (6-2, 240) and Courtney Coleman (6-2, 238), both of Louisville; nose guard George Maddox (6-0, 260) of Tuscaloosa County; linebackers Paul Tolbert (6-1, 215) of Clinch County High School in Homerville, Ga., Ken Gordon (6-0, 195) of Morton; and defensive backs Marcus Arrington (6-0, 185) of Heidelberg and Nick Robinson (5-9, 170) of Morton. Tolbert is the leading returnee in tackles from last season. He had 42 solo stops and 19 assists.

Underwood said returnee Jarius Neal, who played quarterback and receiver last fall, has been moved to safety and may again be used as a wide receiver. Neal is a 6-3, 215-pound product of Pickens High School in Tuscaloosa, Ala. Ivon Hickmon (6-0, 190) of Lake, a redshirt last year, is set to start at outside linebacker.

Newcomers include linebacker Alfred Petway (6-0, 190) of Camden, Ala., and defensive backs George Lowe (6-2, 190), a transfer from Alcorn State and Chris Thomas (6-2, 190) from Weston, Fla.

Underwood said the kicking game should be in good shape with returnee Ryan Gale, a 6-2, 210 product of Oak Mountain High School in Birmingham, Ala., set to handle kicking and punting duties.

"Ryan missed part of last year due to an injury, but has since fully recovered," Underwood said. "He has gotten bigger and stronger and had a good off-season. He will make our kicking game as good as it can be, and we look for him to have a big year."

Serving as a back-up to Gale is freshman Grey LaPrade, a 6-0, 170-pound product of Forest.

"We think Greg will also be a very good kicker and punter. Ryan will handle everything to start with and Greg may come in and take over kicking or punting duties. It just depends on how things go," said Underwood.

08-15-05

Among freshmen linemen expected to contribute are Kerry Hudson (5-11, 270) and Johnathan Pickens (6-3, 215), both of Philadelphia; Mentral Ledbetter (6-0, 270) of Louisville; Ross Tew (6-4, 280) of Stringer; and Brad Snyder (6-2, 270) and Brad Petrey (5-10, 280), both of Tuscaloosa County.

"We should have a solid offense this season," Underwood stated.

As the new offense is getting untracked, Underwood said the defense "will be the strong point, the foundation for the team's success."

Returning for his second year as defensive coordinator Chris Boone, a former assistant at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, La. Under Boone's direction, ECCC had the third-best defense versus the rush in the state, allowing just 98.2 yards per game.

Underwood said Boone "does an outstanding job and gets our guys to play all-out when they take the field."

The Warrior defense includes several players that started or played a lot during 2004. "We look for the defense to be our mainstay," Underwood said.

Returnees include defensive ends Greg

Although team members officially reported for preseason practice on Aug. 9, Underwood said many players participated in voluntary workouts while attending summer classes in June. All members of Underwood's coaching staff were also in attendance for the workout sessions. It marked the first time in the history of the program that football players participated in the early workouts.

"Our kids worked out Monday through Thursday, lifting weights, running and doing other drills. Not only did they improve in the weight room, their conditioning and their knowledge of our new system, they also completed coursework which is beneficial to their graduating and moving on from here. It's something that we want to try and start doing on a regular basis," Underwood said.

Underwood, whose overall record stands at 32-36 following last year's 4-5 campaign, thinks the 2005 squad can be one his best.

"I feel good about this team. Not only do we have enough talent to compete in this league but I think we've got the right attitude and the right leadership from our sophomores. This is a special group and I think they will prove that this season," he said.

WEEK OF 8/22/05

ECCC Warriors

ECCC PHOTO

SCOTT COUNTY WARRIORS

Scott County athletes who are members of the 2005 East Central Community College football team include (kneeling from left) linebacker Derrick Qualls (4) of Forest; cornerback Nick Robinson (6), defensive back Johnathan Thornton (8) and quarterback Elijah McDonald (13), all of Morton; defensive back Ivon Hickmon (14) of Lake; and linebacker Ken Gordon (21) of Morton; and (standing from left) defensive back Cedric Cox (38) of Morton; linebacker Mitch Bradford (46) of Scott Central; linebacker Jeffery Wilson (59) and defensive lineman Marcus Ickom (75), both of Lake; and kicker/punter Grey LaPrade (88) of Forest.

8/22/05

ECCC Team Features New Look

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—A new offense will be on display by the East Central Community College football team in 2005, and head coach Terry Underwood hopes the new look will help the Warriors return to the state playoffs for the first time since 2001.

Underwood, who is in his eighth year in leading the ECCC program, says fans should definitely enjoy the fast-paced action of this year's offense.

"It will be a more wide open attack with a no-huddle concept," Underwood said of the new system, being installed by first-year offensive coordinator Mike Volarvich, a former offensive coach at Blinn Community College in Brenham, Texas, one of the top scoring teams in the nation during Volarvich's three-year stint in working with the offense.

"Coach Volarvich comes with high credentials and has obviously been successful in running this type of offense. It is a very proven system; it's a very successful system; it's one our kids will enjoy playing in; and I think our fans will see a lot more excitement as far as big play opportunities are concerned," he said.

Underwood said the wide open, no-huddle concept - which will be unveiled against Northwest Mississippi Community College in the season-opener Sept. 1 in Decatur - provides several options for the Warrior offense.

"We can be fast-paced and up-tempo or we can slow it down if we want. We will try to take what our opponent's defense will give us, and in turn we'll try to get the ball to the guys who can make plays. I thought we did a good job running the offense in the spring, but we still have a ways to go to be successful," he said.

Sophomore quarterbacks Robbie Morse (6-3, 220 pounds), and Elijah McDonald, (6-2, 180) of Morton, will operate the offense, Underwood said.

"Robbie was our starter last year until he was sidelined by a knee injury, and Elijah is a transfer from Alcorn State University and originally signed with Jackson State University. Both are very capable and had success running the new offense during spring drills. We are very confident in their abilities and both will see a lot of action this fall," Underwood said.

Although Morse played in just six games last year, he was among the state's top quarterbacks, completing 54 of 104 passes for 699 yards and three touchdowns. He averaged 116.5 yards passing per contest.

The receiving corps will be led by returnee Chris Lark (6-2, 190), one of the top receivers in Alabama in 2003 with 28 receptions for 524 yards and two touchdowns. He averaged 58 yards per catch.

Underwood said newcomer Lenny Boatner (5-11, 190) is a welcomed addition to the receiving corps. Assigned to the slot position is returnee Letez Fortune (5-4, 160).

Underwood said of Fortune, "He's a small guy but very explosive. He has good hands and knows what to do with he ball in the open field."

Please see ECCC, 44D

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE WARRIOR 2005 FOOTBALL

Thurs., Sept. 1	**NORTHWEST**	**DECATUR**	**6:30 p.m.**
Thurs., Sept. 8	**ITAWAMBA**	**DECATUR**	**6:30 p.m.**
Thurs., Sept. 15	Southwest	Summit	7 p.m.
Thurs., Sept. 22	**PEARL RIVER**	**DECATUR**	**6:30 p.m.**
Thurs., Sept. 29	East Mississippi	Scooba	6:30 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 8	Co-Lin	Wesson	2:30 p.m.
***Sat., Oct. 15**	**GULF COAST**	**DECATUR**	**2:30 p.m.**
Thurs., Oct. 20	**HINDS**	**DECATUR**	**6:30 p.m.**
Thurs., Oct. 27	Jones	Ellisville	7 p.m.
Sat., Nov. 5	STATE PLAY-OFFS	TBA	
Sat., Nov. 12	STATE CHAMPIONSHIP	TBA	

**Homecoming*

8/22/05

ECCC

From Page 22D

Other receivers include freshmen Alan Stewart (6-3, 185), Curtis Smith (5-11, 185), who will mostly play the slot position, and Ricardo Smith (5-10, 175).

In the backfield, the top returnee is Terrance McFadden (5-10, 205) tailback. McFadden was one of Florida's leading rushers last season, amassing 772 yards on 188 carries, a 4.1 yard per carry. He also averaged 85.7 yards per contest and scored six touchdowns.

"McFadden was our top rusher last year and is also a great receiver out of the backfield. He'll add a lot not only to our running game but in the passing attack as well," Underwood said.

Also in the backfield will be freshmen David McCants (5-10, 180) and Desmond Graham (5-10, 200), "who are both excellent runners."

Vital to the success of any offense is the offensive line, and Underwood said this year's group is "more experienced and much improved."

Other top returnees are guards Montero Baker (5-10, 255) and Nathan Weaver (5-10, 300) and Josh Moore (5-10, 280), who moved from the defensive side to offense during spring workouts and is expected to contribute at the tackle or guard spot.

Among freshmen linemen expected to contribute are Kerry Hudson (5-11, 270) and Johnathan Pickens (6-3, 215); Mentral Ledbetter (6', 270); Ross Tew

8/22/05

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES/ECCC

The 2005 ECCC Warrior football team will kick off the new season with several local players from Scott County under the guidance of head coach Terry Underwood. Scott County players include Derrick Qualls, Nick Robinson, Johnathon Thornton, Elijah McDonald, Ken Gordon, Cedric Cox, Mitch Bradford, Scott Central, Marcus Ickom, Justin Hurdle and Grey LaPrade.

(6-4, 280); and Brad Snyder (6-2, 270) and Brad Petrey (5-10, 280).

Underwood said the defense "will be the strong point, the foundation for the team's success."

Returning for his second year as defensive coordinator Chris Boone, a former assistant at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, La. Under Boone's direction, East Central had the third-best defense versus the rush in the state, allowing just 98.2 yards per game.

The Warrior defense includes several players that started or played a lot during 2004. "We look for the defense to be our mainstay," Underwood stated.

Returnees include defensive ends Greg Hathorn (6-2, 240) and Courtney Coleman (6-2, 238); nose guard George Maddox (6', 260); linebackers Paul Tolbert (6-1, 215), Ken Gordon (6', 195) of Morton; and defensive backs Marcus Arrington (6', 185), Nick Robinson (5-9, 170) of Morton.

Underwood said returnee Jarius Neal (6-3, 215), who played quarterback and receiver last fall, has been moved to safety and may again be used as a wide receiver. Ivon Hickmon (6', 190) of Lake, a red-shirt last year, is set to start at outside linebacker.

Newcomers include linebacker Alfred Petway (6', 190) and defensive backs George Lowe (6-2, 190) and Chris Thomas (6-2, 190).

Underwood said the kicking game should be in good shape with returnee Ryan Gale, (6-2, 210), set to handle kicking and punting duties. Serving as a back-up to Gale is freshman Grey LaPrade, a 6', 170-pound product of Forest High School.

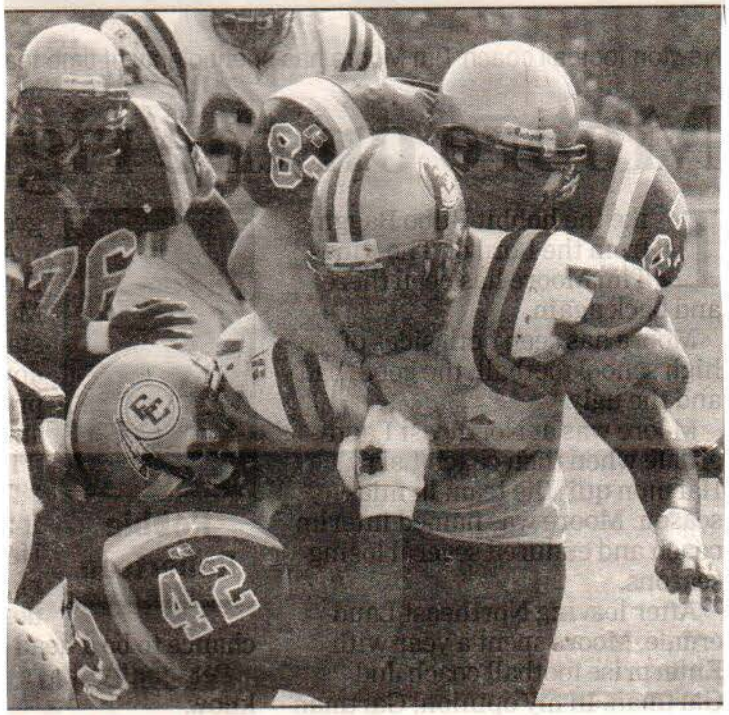
"We think Grey will also be a very good kicker and punter. Ryan will handle everything to start with and Greg may come in and take over kicking or punting duties. It just depends on how things go," said Underwood.

Underwood, whose overall record stands at 32-36 following last year's 4-5 campaign, thinks the 2005 squad can be one his best.

"I feel good about this team. Not only do we have enough talent to compete in this league but I think we've got the right attitude and the right leadership from our sophomores. This is a special group and I think they will prove that this season," he said.

ECCC ACTION

WEEK OF 8/22/05



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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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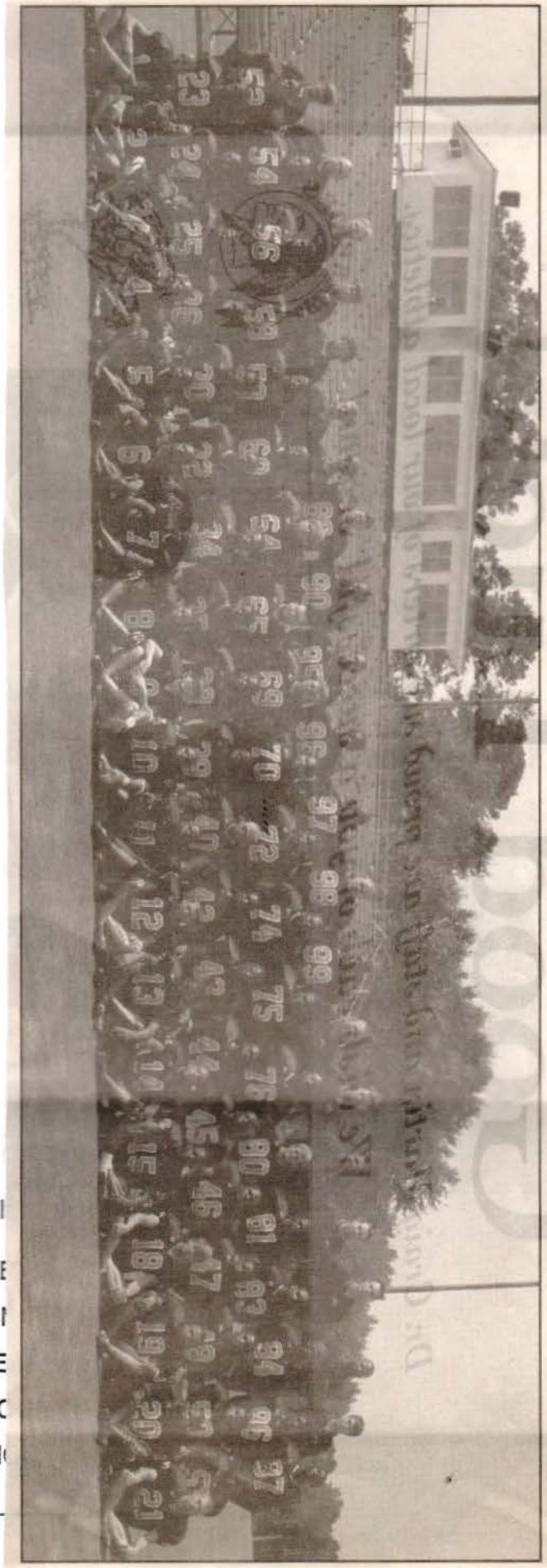
WEEK OF 8/22/05



EAST CENTRAL

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8/27/05

Underwood is optimistic about season entering eighth year running program

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
Staff Reporter

The East Central Community College Warriors are gearing up for a run at the MACJC State Playoffs as they open the 2005 campaign at home against Northwest Community College on Sept. 1.

"The first game is going to be important for us," said coach Terry Underwood as he enters his eighth season at the helm of the Warriors. "We've got a good group of players out and I'm very optimistic about this season. We had a good spring and a very successful summer weight program. But we need to get off to a good start."

The Warriors played Northwest tough last year in a 14-12 loss, and got off to a 4-2 start. But midseason injuries to key personnel proved costly in the end. The Warriors play in the tough South Division against Pearl River, Jones, Hinds, Co-Lin, Gulf Coast and Southwest, but also take on North Division foes Northwest, Itawamba and East Mississippi.

Elijah McDonald, who signed out of Morton with Jackson State, is expected to work at quarterback. Robbie Morse, who started last season before injuring his knee, is expected to be back. Other possible candidates for the quarterbacking position are Colby Amis of Newton County, DeAngelo Carter of Noxapater and Jarius Neal of Tuscaloosa, Ala. Neal played some at quarterback last season but was moved to the defensive secondary during spring training and is expected to start at free safety. He will be available if needed.

The ECCC quarterbacks will have a solid group of receivers to throw to in Chris Lark of Pickens County High School in Alabama, Lenny Boatner, a former Winston Academy standout who transferred to ECCC from the University of Hawaii, Amis, Alan Stewart, Letez Fortune, Curtis Smith and Alex West.

Terrance McFadden of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., who led East Central in rushing last season with 772 yards, is back at tailback along with David McCants and Desmond Graham. Derrick Qualls of Forest and former Philadelphia High School standout Dustin Crockett are expected to see plenty of playing time at fullback.

The Warriors are expected to be more wide open offensively with no huddles. This new offense will be unveiled against Northwest.

Clearing the way will be the ECCC offensive line. Javares Dobbins and Brad Petry will anchor the line at center. Montero Baker, Nathan Weaver and Philadelphia's Kerry Hudson will play at the offensive guard positions, while former Neshoba Central standout Josh Moore, Mentrell Ledbetter, Ross Tew and former Tornado Jonathan Pickens will see action at tackle. Anthony Stanford will start at tight end.

The defense will be solid with the return of starting inside linebacker Paul Tolbert, defensive ends Greg Hathorn and Courtney Coleman, and Neal at free safety. Keith Spann will play at defensive end while Tim Stamper, Kenyon Boatman and Jesse Badgewell will play the tackle position.

T.J. Rushing of Neshoba Central is expected to see a lot of playing time at linebacker, and George Maddox is the nose guard. The outside linebackers will be Alvin Hickman and Xavier Combest.

THE SCHEDULE

Sept. 1	Northwest
Sept. 8	Itawamba
Sept. 15	at Southwest
Sept. 22	Pearl River
Sept. 29	at East Miss.
Oct. 8	at Co-Lin
Oct. 15	Gulf Coast
Oct. 20	Hinds
Oct. 27	at Jones

2005 EAST CENTRAL ROSTER

No.	Name	Class	No.	Name	Class
1	Robbie Morse	Soph	39	Gary Lindsey	Fresh
2	Marcus Arrington	Soph	40	T.J. Rushing	Soph
3	Chris Lark	Soph	42	Jermaine Glass	Fresh
4	Derrick Qualls	Soph	43	Andrew Herrington	Fresh
5	Terrance McFadden	Fresh	45	Xavier Combest	Fresh
6	Nick Robinson	Soph	46	Mitch Bradford	Fresh
7	Letez Fortune	Soph	47	Chance Parhm	Fresh
8	Johnathon Thornton	Soph	48	Blair Fridge	Fresh
9	Lenny Boatner	Soph	50	Montero Baker	Soph
10	Greg Hathorn	Soph	52	Nathan Weaver	Soph
11	Paul Tolbert	Soph	54	Josh Moore	Soph
12	Anthony Stanford	Soph	64	Reed Myers	Soph
13	Elijah McDonald	Soph	65	Brad Petry	Fresh
14	Ivon Hickmon	Fresh	69	Ross Tew	Fresh
15	Jarius Neal	Soph	70	Javeres Dobbins	Soph
18	Ryan Gale	Soph	72	Mentrell Ledbetter	Fresh
19	DeAngelo Carter	Fresh	76	Tim Stamper	Fresh
21	Ken Gordon	Soph	80	Colby Amis	Fresh
23	Kris Thomas	Fresh	81	Curtis Smith	Fresh
24	Jeremy Holmes	Fresh	83	Ricardo Smith	Fresh
25	David McCants	Fresh	84	Allen Stewart	Fresh
26	George Lowe	Fresh	86	Ken Chathman	Fresh
30	Dustin Crockett	Fresh	90	Kenyon Boatman	Fresh
32	Desmond Graham	Fresh	95	Carlos Moffett	Fresh
34	Headrick Ficklin	Soph	96	Timothy Richardson	Fresh
36	Courtney Coleman	Soph	97	Keith Spann	Fresh
38	Cedric Cox	Fresh	98	Jesse Badgewell	Fresh
			99	George Maddox	Soph

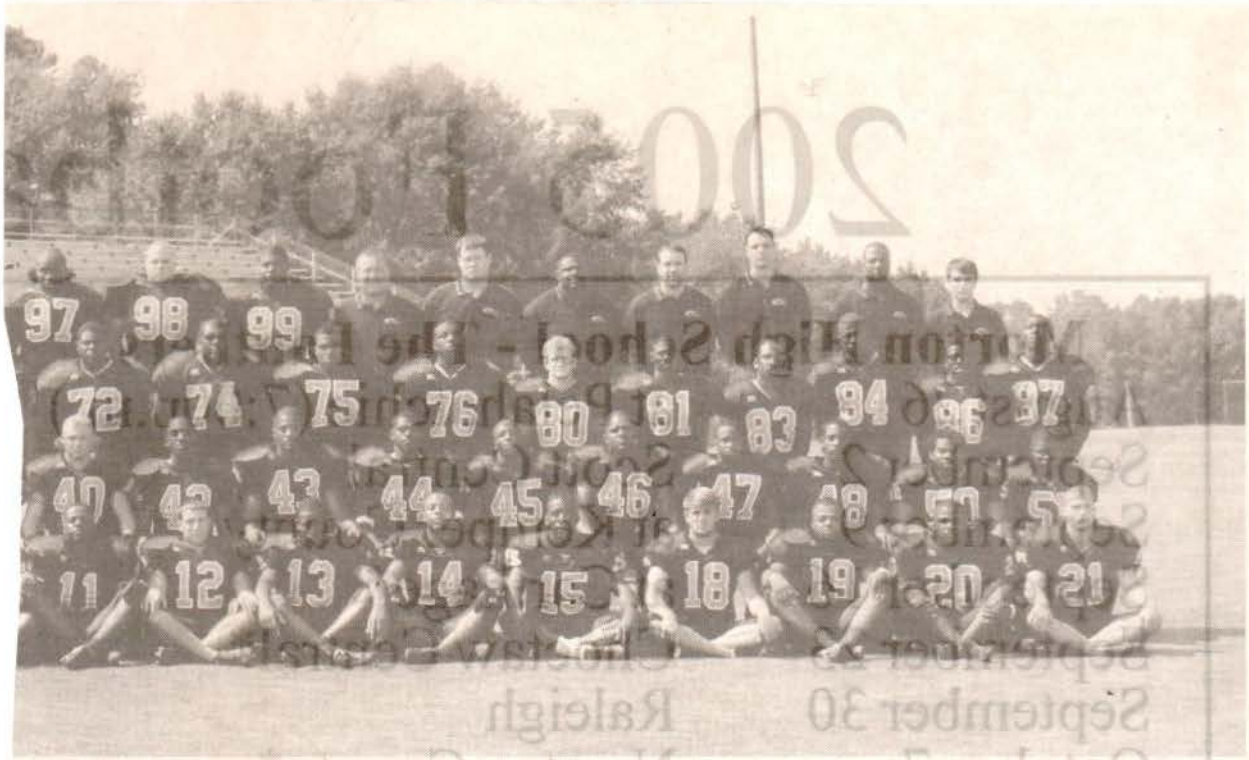
8/22/05

Members of the 2005 Warrior football team at East Central Community College in Decatur and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) quarterback Robbie Morse (#1), Walton County (Fla.), defensive back Marcus Arrington (#2), Heidelberg; wide receiver Chris Lark (#3), Pickens County (Ala.); linebacker Derrick Qualls (#4), Forest; tailback Terrance McFadden (#5), American Heritage (Fla.); cornerback Nick Robinson (#6), Morton; wide receiver Letez Fortune (#7), South Leake; defensive back Johnathon Thornton (#8), Morton; wide receiver Lenny Boatner (#9), Winston Academy; defensive end Greg Hathorn (#10), Louisville;linebacker Paul Tolbert (#11), Clinch County (Ga.); free safety Anthony Stanford (#12), Louisville; quarterback Elijah McDonald (#13), Morton; defensive back Ivon Hickmon (#14), Lake; quarterback/wide receiver Jarius Neal (#15), Pickens County (Ala.); kicker/punter Ryan Gale (#18), Oak Mountain (Ala.); quarterback DeAngelo Carter (#19), Noxapater; running back Timmy Barnes (#20), Collins; and linebacker Ken Gordon (#21) Morton; (second row, from left) defensive back Kris Thomas (#23), American Heritage (Fla.); defensive back Jeremy Holmes (#24), Philadelphia; running back/wide receiver David McCants (#25), Tuscaloosa County (Ala.); defensive back George Lowe (#26), Columbus; fullback Dustin Crockett (#30), Philadelphia; running back/linebacker Desmond Graham (#32), Louisville; linebacker Headrick Ficklin (#34), South Leake; cornerback Marieo Harris (#35), Columbus; defensive back Cedric Cox (#38), Morton; defensive back Gary Lindsey (#39), Laurel; linebacker T.J. Rushing (#40), Neshoba Central; linebacker/safety Jermaine Glass (#42), Louisville; linebacker Andrew Harrington (#43), Kemper County; running back Lakendrick Coleman (#44), Louisville; defensive back Xavier Combest (#45), Laurel; linebacker Mitch Bradford (#46), Scott Central; safety Chance Parhm (#47), South Leake; wide receiver Blair Fridge (#48), Clinton; and offensive guard Montero Baker (#50), Columbus;

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER		CARTHAGINIAN	✓
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES		NESHOBA DEMOCRAT	
UNION APPEAL		NEWTON RECORD	X
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL		MERIDIAN STAR	
SPIRIT OF MORTON	X	CLARION-LEDGER	
IMPACT			

8/22/05



and linebacker Demetrius Bishop (#51), Batesville; (third row, from left) center Nathan Weaver (#52), Columbus; offensive guard Josh Moore (#54), Neshoba Central; offensive lineman Kerry Hudson (#56), Philadelphia; wide receiver Daniel Heidelberg (#58), Laurel; linebacker Jeffrey Wilson (#59), Lake; linebacker Alan Greer (#60), Philadelphia; offensive guard Reed Myers (#64), Newton County; offensive lineman Brad Petrey (#65), Tuscaloosa (Ala.); offensive lineman Ross Tew (#69), Stringer; center Javares Dobbins (#70), Tuscaloosa County; offensive lineman Mentrell Ledbetter (#72), Louisville; offensive lineman Johnathan Pickens (#74) Philadelphia; defensive lineman Marcus Ickom (#75) Lake; defensive lineman (#76) Tim Stamper, Rome (Ga.); wide receiver Colby Amis (#80), Newton County; wide receiver Curtis Smith (#81), Mendenhall; wide receiver Ricardo Smith (#83), Carthage; wide receiver Allen Stewart (#84), Holt (Ala.); wide receiver Ken Chathman (#86), Hillcrest Christian; and wide receiver Alex West (#87), Southeast Lauderdale; (and back row, from left) managers Matt Fondren, Union; Mike Fondren, Caledonia; Patrick Woodward, Winston Academy; Chris Ryals, Kemper Academy; Josh Crowson, Winston Academy; Micheal Pientowski, Newton and Justin Hurdle, Forest; kicker/punter Grey LaPrade (#88), Forest; defensive lineman Kenyon Boatman (#90), Neshoba Central; defensive lineman Carlos Moffett (#95), Taylorsville; defensive end Timothy Richardson (#96), Hillcrest (Ala.); and defensive end Keith Spann (#97), Clinton; defensive lineman Jesse Badgewell (#98), Paul Bryant (Ala.); noseguard George Maddox (#99), Tuscaloosa County; head coach Terry Underwood; assistant coaches, Carey Melvin, James Miller, Chris Boone, Mike Volarvich and Terry Evans; and athletic trainer Derrick Jones of the Rush Sports Medicine Team. (EC Photo)

8/22/05

ECCC Football Team

A new offense will on display by the East Central Community College football team in 2005, and head coach Terry Underwood hopes the new look will help the Warriors return to the state playoffs for the first time since 2001.

Underwood, who is in his eight year in leading the ECCC program, says fans should definitely enjoy the fast-paced action of this year's offense.

"It will be a more wide open attack with a no-huddle concept," Underwood said of the new system, being installed by first-year offensive coordinator Mike Volarvich, a former offensive coach at Blinn Community College in Brenham, Texas, one of the top scoring teams in the nation during Volarvich's three-year stint in working with the offense.

Underwood noted that Volarvich, who joined the ECCC staff prior to spring drills, has been a part of or served as offensive coordinator

8/27/05

Features New Look

of the number one or two offensive teams in the nation in three out of the last four years.

The Buccaneers averaged almost 47 points and 470 yards per contest in 2004 and ended season action by defeating Jones County Junior College in the Golden Isles Bowl Classic in Brunswick, Ga., site of East Central's victorious bowl appearance in 1996. The Volarvich-guided Blinn offense broke numerous school, conference and national records in 2003 while leading the NJCAA in offense with 53 points and 559 yards per game.

"Coach Volarvich comes with high credentials and has obviously been successful in running this type of offense. It is a very proven system; it's a very successful system; it's one our kids will enjoy playing in; and I think our fans will see a lot more excitement as far as big play opportunities are concerned," he said.

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"Lark has exceptional speed, is a big target and has soft hands to catch the ball. He had a great spring and we're expecting him to have a great season," Underwood said.

Underwood said newcomer Lenny Boatner (5-11, 190), a transfer from the University of Hawaii and a Winston Academy product, is a welcomed addition to the receiving corps.

"Boatner is a good receiver and has good size. He red-shirted one year and had some playing time last fall. He also had a good spring," said Underwood.

Assigned to the slot position is returnee Letez Fortune, a 5-4, 160-pound product of South Leake High School.

Underwood said of Fortune, "He's a small guy but very explosive. He has good hands and knows what to do with the ball in the open field."

Other receivers include freshmen Alan Stewart (6-3, 185) of Holt, Ala., Curtis Smith (5-11, 185) of Mendenhall, who will mostly play the slot position, and Ricardo Smith (5-10, 175) of Carthage.

In the backfield, the top returnee is Terrance McFadden, a 5-10, 205-pound tailback from American Heritage High School in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. McFadden was one of the state's leading rushers last season, amassing 772 yards on 188 carries, a 4.1 yard per carry. He also averaged 85.7 yards per contest and scored six touchdowns.

8/22/05

Underwood said sophomore quarterbacks Robbie Morse, a 6-3, 220-pound product of Walton County High School in Defuniak Springs, Fla., and Elijah McDonald, (6-2, 180) of Morton, will operate the offense.

"Robbie was our starter last year until he was sidelined by a knee injury, and Elijah is a transfer from Alcorn State University and originally signed with Jackson State University. Both are very capable and had success running the new offense during spring drills. We are very confident in their abilities and both will see a lot of action this fall," Underwood stated.

Although Morse played in just six games last year, he was among the state's top quarterbacks, completing 54 of 104 passes for 699 yards and three touchdowns. He averaged 116.5 yards passing per contest.

Underwood also commended the two freshman quarterbacks – Deangelo Carter (6', 190) of Noxapater and Colby Amis (5-10, 175) of Newton County - will serve as "very capable" back-ups. Amis is also expected to see action as a receiver.

The receiving corps will be led by returnee Chris Lark, a 6-2, 190-pound former standout at Pickens County High School in Reform, Ala. Lark was one of the top receivers in the state in 2003 with 28 receptions for 524 yards and two touchdowns.

"McFadden was our top rusher last year and is also a great receiver out of the backfield. He'll add a lot not only to our running game but in the passing attack as well," Underwood stated.

Also in the backfield will be freshmen David McCants (5-10, 180) of Tuscaloosa County and Desmond Graham (5-10, 200) of Noxapater, "who are both excellent runners."

Vital to the success of any offense is the offensive line, and Underwood stated this year's group is "more experienced and much improved."

"Javares Dobbins (5-10, 290) will be our anchor at center. He started a lot of games for us last year at either center or guard," Underwood stated. Dobbins is a former standout at Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County.

Other top returnees are guards Montero Baker (5-10, 255) and Nathan Weaver (5-10, 300), both of Columbus, and Josh Moore (5-10, 280) of Neshoba Central, who moved from the defensive side to offense during spring workouts and is expected to contribute at the tackle or guard spot.

Among freshmen linemen expected to contribute are Kerry Hudson (5-11, 270) and Johnathan Pickens (6-3, 215), both of Philadelphia; Mentral Ledbetter (6', 270) of Louisville; Ross Tew (6-4, 280) of Stringer; and Brad Snyder (6-2, 270) and Brad Petrey (5-10, 280), both of

8/27/05

for 2005 Campaign

Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County.

"We should have a solid offense this season," Underwood stated.

As the new offense is getting untracked, Underwood said the defense "will be the strong point, the foundation for the team's success."

Returning for his second year as defensive coordinator Chris Boone, a former assistant at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, La. Under Boone's direction, East Central had the third-best defense versus the rush in the state, allowing just 98.2 yards per game. East Central also ranked third in forced turnovers with 30.

Underwood said Boone "does an outstanding job and gets our guys to play all-out when they take the field."

The Warrior defense includes several players that started or played a lot during 2004. "We look for the defense to be our mainstay," Underwood stated.

Returnees include defensive ends Greg Hathorn (6-2, 240) and Courtney Coleman (6-2, 238), both of Louisville; nose guard George Maddox (6', 260) of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County; linebackers Paul Tolbert (6-1, 215) of Clinch County High School in Homerville, Ga., Ken Gordon (6', 195) of Morton; and defensive backs Marcus Arrington (6', 185) of Heidelberg and Nick Robinson (5-9, 170) of Morton. Tolbert is the leading returnee in tackles from last season. He had 42 solo stops and 19 assists.

and Greg may come in and take over kicking or punting duties. It just depends on how things go," said Underwood.

Although team members officially reported for pre-season practice on August 9, Coach Underwood said many players participated in voluntary workouts while attending summer classes in June. All members of Underwood's coaching staff were also in attendance for the workout sessions. It marked the first time in the history of the program that football players participated in the early workouts.

"Our kids worked out Monday through Thursday, lifting weights, running and doing other drills. Not only did they improve in the weight room, their conditioning and their knowledge of our new system, they also completed coursework which is beneficial to their graduating and moving on from here. I think it was a very positive thing for them to be here in June and it's something that we want to try and start doing on a regular basis," Underwood stated.

Underwood, whose overall record stands at 32-36 following last year's 4-5 campaign, thinks the 2005 squad can be one his best.

"I feel good about this team. Not only do we have enough talent to compete in this league but I think we've got the right attitude and the right leadership from our sophomores. This is a special group and I think they will prove that this season," he said.

8/27/03

Underwood said returnee Jarius Neal, who played quarterback and receiver last fall, has been moved to safety and may again be used as a wide receiver. Neal is a 6-3, 215-pound product of Pickens High School in Tuscaloosa, Ala. Ivon Hickmon (6', 190) of Lake, a red-shirt last year, is set to start at outside linebacker.

Newcomers include linebacker Alfred Petway (6', 190) of Camden, Ala., and defensive backs George Lowe (6-2, 190) of Columbus, a transfer from Alcorn State University, and Chris Thomas (6-2, 190) from Weston, Fla.

Underwood said the kicking game should be in good shape with returnee Ryan Gale, a 6-2, 210 product of Oak Mountain High School in Birmingham, Ala., set to handle kicking and punting duties.

"Ryan missed part of last year due to an injury but has since fully recovered. He has gotten bigger and stronger and had a good off-season. He will make our kicking game as good as it can be, and we look for him to have a big year," Underwood stated.

Serving as a back-up to Gale is freshman Grey LaPrade, a 6', 170-pound product of Forest High School.

"We think Greg will also be a very good kicker and punter. Ryan will handle everything to start with

Underwood is also pleased with this year's schedule, which includes five home games.

"Even though it's a tough schedule, I like the layout of the schedule because we open up with our first two games at home for the first time in three years. We've got some really good teams that we are playing at home – Northwest, Itawamba, Pearl River and Gulf Coast – and I like our chances at home better versus playing those teams on the road," he said.

Underwood also noted that road trips are shorter distances this year. The Warriors travel to Southwest, East Mississippi, Co-Lin and Jones.

Assistants on Underwood's staff in addition to Volarvich and Boone are Carey Melvin (defensive line) Terry Evans (running backs) and James Miller (linebackers).

All Warrior football games can be heard on KICKS 98 (98.3 FM) in Carthage featuring veteran broadcasters Melvin Wooten and Gilbert Barham.

WEEK OF 8-29-05

East Central prepares for unknown

■ Northwest brings new coach to game; playing date to be decided later.

By Robbie Robertson
The Newton Record

East Central Community College football coach Terry Underwood must have felt something like the Riddler from the Batman series Monday morning.

He had far more questions than he did answers.

To begin with, he didn't know if his Warriors would be able to play football Thursday night or not. Underwood said he and ECCC president Dr. Phil Sutphin said they would talk Tuesday morning to make a decision about the game.

"There is an outside chance that the game could be played on Saturday," Underwood said. "We won't know until we see what type of damage we are dealing with. The biggest thing is the power."

Underwood said he held a two-hour practice with his players Sunday in preperation for Thursday night's opener with traditional power Northwest Community College.

Besides the weather, the Warriors have to deal with an unknown opponent in Northwest. Long-time Northwest coach Bobby Franklin retired after last year and the school hired Randy Pippen to be the new head coach.

Pippen brings a lengthy resume with him to Northwest. He was formerly the head coach at West Alabama but the majority of his success has come on the junior college ranks. He won a national championship at Trinity Valley and had multiple bowl appearances at Middle Georgia. On top of that, the Rangers return 10 starters on a defense and five on offense.

"He has done a great job everywhere he has been," Underwood said of Pippen. We are a little blind to what we may see. We have got some films where he has coached before. But you really don't know what they are going to do. It's generally that way in all first games but this is a little bit more severe. They know a little bit more about us than we do about them."

One thing Underwood does know for sure is that he will start the season with a new starting quarterback. Projected starter Robbie Morse left the team after their two-week training camp.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
UNION APPEAL _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
NEWTON RECORD X
MERIDIAN STAR _____
CLARION-LEDGER _____

8-29-05

foe Northwest

"He had some family problems and left the team," Underwood said. "It's unfortunate but that's the decision he made. You hate to say it but it's pretty typical in junior college football. We were 4-2 with Robbie at quarterback last year before he got hurt. But we have some good players at quarterback, just none of them have ever played in a college game before."

Underwood said former Morton standout Elijah McDonald will start against Northwest. He will be backed up by Noxapater freshman Deangelo Carter. When Morse left, Underwood said they brought in Josh Lowery from Sparta, Tenn.

"We are tickled to death to have him in," Underwood said. "When Robbie left, we called Josh and he jumped at the chance. Recruiting is a year-around process and Josh was one of those kids we had our eye on. He is catching on to the offense but Deangelo will be the back-up to start the season. We are confident with the kids we have. We will have some first-game mistakes."

Another addition to the team is running back/wide receiver Lonnie Sparks from Newport News, Va., whom Underwood said will see some playing time early.

Last year, the Warriors lost a close contest to the Rangers in Senatobia.

"We lost a close one last year, maybe we can get those guys this year," Underwood said. "We are excited about getting the season kicked off."

WEEK OF 9-5-05

East Central could play its home games

■ Warriors' first two games wiped out; opener now set for Sept. 22.

From Staff Reports

During the "infancy" years of its football program, newly-consolidated Newton County High School used the field at East Central Community College's Warrior Stadium.

Now, it appears NCHS may be returning the favor.

With the 2005 junior-college football season in Mississippi in limbo because of the statewide effects of Hurricane Katrina last week, ECCC president Phil Sutphin confirmed Tuesday that — while the details have yet to be finalized — it was likely the Warriors could play as many as four home games at Newton County High.

Sutphin spent the early part of the week in a conference call with presidents of the state's other community colleges, while NCHS head coach Jeff Breland and ECCC head man Terry Underwood discussed the Warriors playing their home games at Newton County this fall.

Bleachers on the visitors' sideline were overturned and a portion of the press box was blown away at ECCC.

"Tentatively, we'll play at Newton County," Sutphin said. "Coach Underwood and coach Breland were meeting (Tuesday) to work out details. We've been talking to coach Breland all along ... but until it's a done deal, it's not a done deal."

ECCC's season and home-opener for 2005 — scheduled for last Thursday against Northwest Mississippi — apparently won't be played. Neither will this week's home contest with

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

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9-5-05

at Newton County High

Itawamba.

Under the proposed schedule shuffling presidents discussed earlier this week, East Central's Sept. 15 contest at Southwest Mississippi will be moved to the end of the season — meaning the Warriors' first game will be Sept. 22 against visiting Pearl River.

Sutphin said he thought it was important for the schools that are able to participate to return to action.

"One of the reasons that I pushed hard ... was to get back to some sense of normalcy," Sutphin said. "Athletics plays a role in there. I didn't see many vacant seats at the State and Ole Miss games."

If all schools are able to participate, Mississippi's junior colleges will play a seven-game, regular-season schedule, dropping just the first two weeks and moving the third week to the end of the season.

Most of the schools that compete in the South Division — most notably Gulf Coast, Pearl River, Copiah-Lincoln, Southwest Mississippi and Jones County Junior College — received heavy damage during last week's storm.

WEEK OF 9-25-5

JUCO football will kick off in two weeks

By Tony Krausz
sports editor

Junior college football teams will attempt to kick off the 2005 season in two weeks.

Hurricane Katrina's arrival on Aug. 29 knocked out the original season opener for the state's JUCO programs last week. MACJC games were scheduled to be played last Thursday and Saturday.

Junior college programs will now kick off the season on Sept. 22, with teams across the state using the fourth week of the schedule as the new opening date.

The season will now be a seven-game slate, as teams will not make up games lost in the first two weeks of the year. Week three games, which for nearly every program is a district contest, will be made up at the end of the season on Nov. 5.

The decision of how to carry out the rest of the season was made on Tuesday by the state's junior college presidents during a teleconference, according to East Mississippi Community College head football coach Roger Carr.

JUCO

From Page C1

"You have to look at things as a whole," said Carr, whose team will open the season with a road game against Mississippi Delta Community College at 7 p.m. on Sept. 22. "There were maybe four or five teams in the north that could have played last week, and there are many teams in the south the couldn't have played last week and cannot play this week.

"We are fortunate to be able to play at all," Carr added.

Because of the adjustment to the schedule the playoffs will start on Nov. 12. The championship game will be played on Nov. 19.

"We are excited to be able to start playing eventually," said East Central Community College head coach Terry Underwood, whose team will open the season with a 6:30 p.m. home game against Pearl River on Sept. 22. "All the questions are over with, and we know when we are going to start.

"As a coach or player, you would rather play all nine games, but because of the circumstances this is the best scenario," Underwood added.

EMCC lost an away game against Hinds Community College, which was scheduled for Sept. 1, and a home game against Pearl River Community College, which was scheduled for Thursday. The Lions will make up their home game against Itawamba Community College on Nov. 3. The Itawamba contest was scheduled to be played on Sept. 15.

ECCC lost home games against Northwest Mississippi Community College, scheduled for Sept. 1, and Itawamba, scheduled for Thursday. The Warriors will make up their road game against Southwest Mississippi Community College on Nov. 5. The Southwest contest was set for Sept. 15.

ECCC will also likely have its road game against Jones Junior College on Oct. 27, a Thursday, moved to Oct. 29, a Saturday.

Underwood said because of the damage sustained to ECCC's stadium, the team will play its home games at nearby Newton County High School. ECCC has home contests against Pearl River, Gulf Coast Community College (Oct. 15) and Hinds Community College (Oct. 20) left on its schedule.

"I have met with officials at Newton County High School, and it looks like we will be able to play are home games there," Underwood said.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR X

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WEEK OF _____

ECCC announces adjusted f'ball slate

East Central Community College's football schedule has again been revised in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

ECCC Athletic Director and Warriors head coach Terry Underwood said the changes were necessary due to conflicts with rescheduled high school games.

Underwood said ECCC will play three home games this season with each being played at Newton County High School in Decatur.

The Warriors will begin the season by hosting Pearl River Community College at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 24.

On Saturday, Oct. 15, the Warriors will battle Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College on homecoming with kickoff set for 2:30 p.m.

The home finale is slated for Saturday, Oct. 22 at 2:30 with Hinds Community College traveling to Decatur.

The Warriors will have road games at East Mississippi, Copiah-Lincoln, Jones County and Southwest Mississippi.

Underwood said the Warriors' game at Jones may be changed from Thursday, Oct. 27, to Saturday, Oct. 29, but an announcement will be made at a later date.

State playoffs are scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 12 with the championship game slated for Saturday, Nov. 19.

ECCC moved its home games to NCHS due to damages sustained at Warrior Stadium during Hurricane Katrina.

The visitor's bleachers and a section of the press box were destroyed. Newly installed lights on the football field were also damaged.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

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WEEK OF Sept 19, 2005

Warriors face top team in opener

By Marty Stamper
staff writer

DECATUR — After a 10-day delay due to the effects of Hurricane Katrina, the East Central Community College Warriors will finally kick off their 2005 football season today when they host the defending national champion Pearl River Community College Wildcats.

Kick off, at Newton County High School, is set for 2:30 p.m. All home games of ECCC's home schedule, including the game against Pearl River, will be played at Newton County High School due to hurricane damage sustained at ECCC's Warrior Stadium. Damage included the loss of the visitors' bleachers and one-third of the press box.

"They played here for many years and they were thrilled to have us coming," said ECCC head coach Terry Underwood of the change of site for this year. "They've got a grand stadium, and it will be a good venue for our kids to have a game.

"Our players and coaches and everybody

ECCC

From Page B1

associated with the program is excited that we're going to get to play this week. It's been kind of a roller coaster preseason. Going into the storm, we were a couple days away from opening up and playing. Then everything got set back three weeks. We're excited about having a chance to play."

The Warriors didn't lose any players as the result of the hurricane.

"That could effect those schools located below us, but we haven't lost anybody," Underwood said. "We had some players that had their homes affected."

Pearl River should be a formidable opponent for the Warriors.

"It's a very tough out," Underwood said. "They're the defending national champions, plus the two-time defending state champions. We're getting to open up with the best team from last year in our league. We've got a tough draw.

"It may be the best time to play them though. We know they expect to be as good or better, but we're excited about having the opportunity to play them.

"We need to play a football game. We're still going to make mistakes, but I hope we won't make too many, especially those that are game costly.

"We've been practicing hard for weeks. We feel like we're in decent condition and we've had plenty of preparation."

The long layoff may have actually helped the Warriors, especially with the sudden loss of starting quarterback Robbie Morse prior to the hurricane.

"With Robbie deciding not to play, that gave more preparation for our other quarterbacks," Underwood said. "There's been some positives from the layoff.

"You look for the silver lining in the clouds and there were some things negative about not being here and not getting to play, but we had some kids that were injured that wouldn't have played."

MACJC members will play only a seven-game schedule this fall. The abbreviated schedule has already cost Pearl River its No. 1 preseason ranking as the Wildcats fell to No. 7 in this week's poll without playing a game. Other teams across the nation have played as many as four games.

It will be interesting to see if Pearl River, or any other Mississippi team, will be able to play for the 2005 national championship due to the limited schedule.

"It could effect our league, but I don't think the NJCAA ought to hold that against our top teams because of what has been done," Underwood said. "It may effect our top two or three teams because we're only playing seven and you may have teams that will win nine or 10. But to me, with this league and the kind of competition we have, I think we can hold our own against anybody."

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF Sept 19 05

CARTHAGINIAN
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT
NEWTON RECORD
MERIDIAN STAR
CLARION-LEDGER

EC ready for 'home' opener

By Robbie Robertson
The Newton Record

East Central Community College has been ready to unleash its new offense for nearly two months now.

The Warriors were scheduled to open the season on Sept. 1 at home against Northwest Community College. But that game and the Sept. 8 contest against Itawamba have been cancelled due to Hurricane Katrina.

That left East Central with another month of practice, a seven-game schedule and a season opener against defending national champion Pearl River Community College.

The Warriors hope the extra time gives new offensive coordinator Mike Valoravich to teach his wide open offense to new quarterback Elijah McDonald and other newcomers.

"The bottom line is we have gotten in more reps," Underwood said. "I had a coach tell me that you have to do something 16 times to become familar with it and 200 times to perfect it. Anytime you can get more reps, it can't do anything but good."

After the layoffs, Underwood said his team is excited about the opportunity to step on the field.

"Basically, we're excited about playing," Underwood said. "The kids are excited, coaches, managers, cheerleaders, everybody's just excited to be playing. We're excited about playing the pre-season No. 1 team in the country. We feel good about our chances and the situation."

See **ECCC**, Page 3B

ECCC schedule

Sept. 24	PEARL RIVER
Sept. 29	at EMCC
Oct. 8	at Co-Lin
Oct. 15	GULF COAST
Oct. 22	HINDS
Oct. 27	at Jones
Nov. 3	at Southwest
Nov. 12	State playoffs
Nov. 19	State championship

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Sept. 19-05

ECCC

From Page 1B

Underwood said he thought that Pearl River just got their players back this week and could be short on preparation time.

"We might have a week on them," Underwood said. "You just never know. But we feel like playing at 2:30 in the afternoon will be tough. Hopefully, we can have an edge in conditioning."

The Warriors will be playing just three home games this season and those games will be played at Newton County on Saturday afternoons. EC was forced to move to Newton County when its football stadium sustained major damage with the visitors' bleachers and press box being destroyed and newly installed lights were damaged.

"Obviously we would rather play at home but we are tickled to play at Newton County and appreciate them working with us," East Central football coach Terry Underwood said. "We felt they had the kind of facility we needed but we didn't have a lot of options."

Underwood said all the games at Newton County will be played at day to avoid using the schools lights.

"We didn't want them to have to pay the electricity it costs to use the lights," Underwood said. "I actually like the Saturday afternoon games and that's what I told our teams. We will be running on the field the same time as the SEC schools run on the field. We just have to be in shape."

ECCC vs. Pearl

Where: Decatur
When: Saturday, 2:30 p.m.

Underwood said he has kept the same practice schedule and continues to practice his team in the mid-afternoon heat.

"The biggest thing that will come into play will be conditioning," Underwood said. "You don't know how much time Pearl River has had to practice so I think conditioning will be a major factor. I feel like we are in good condition. We have pushed them pretty good and will continue to push them. We feel like we will be ready to go."

WEEK OF Sept 19, 15

EMCC, ECCC will look for first victory

By Tony Krausz
sports editor

Thursday's football rivalry showdown between East Mississippi Community College and East Central Community College will have more at stake than area bragging rights.

JUCO Notebook

The game, which will be played at EMCC in Scooba, will also feature both teams aiming for win No. 1 of the season.

EMCC's Lions fell in its opener, of the junior college season's abbreviated seven-game schedule, 31-14 to Mississippi Delta Community College last Thursday in Moorhead.

ECCC's Warriors dropped its opener, at the team's new home this year, Newton County High School, to the defending national champion Pearl River Community College 35-10 on Saturday.

Thursday's game is scheduled to kick off at 6:30 p.m.

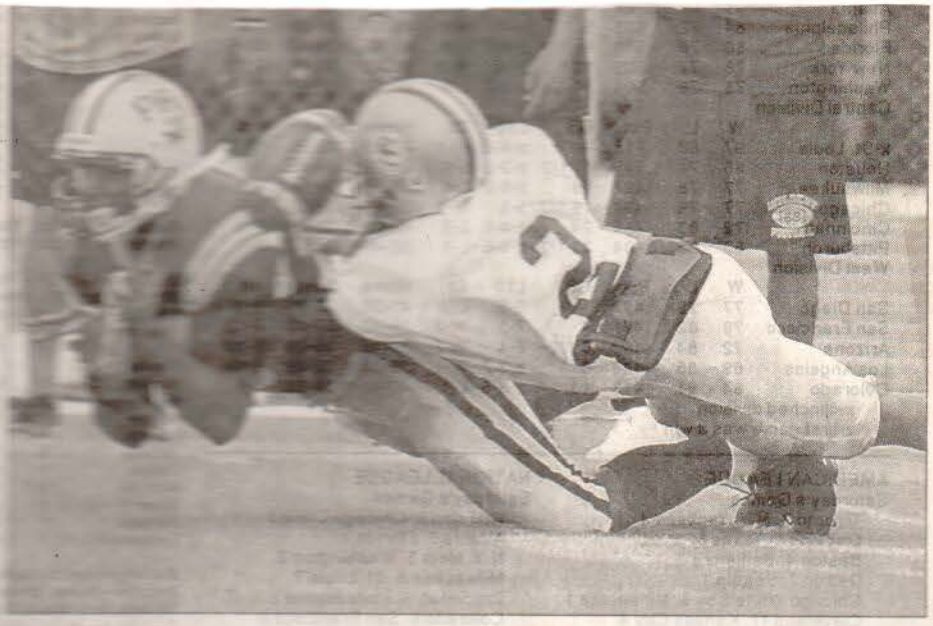

PHOTO BY KYLE CARTER / THE MERIDIAN STAR

BREAK UP

East Central Community College's Marcus Arrington, right, breaks up a pass intended for Pearl River Community College's Jeffery Smith, left, in the first quarter of their game on Saturday. The Warriors will travel to play area-rival East Mississippi Community College on Thursday.

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR X

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WEEK OF Sept. 19, 2005

ECCC finally gets season under way

by Marty Stamper

Finally.

Although it will be 23 days later than planned, the East Central Community College Warriors will kick off their 2005 football season Saturday afternoon against defending national champion Pearl River Community College.

The game, along with ECCC's other home games in 2005, will be played at Newton County High School due to damage at Warrior Stadium from Hurricane Katrina. Kickoff is set for 2:30 p.m.

MACJC members will only play a seven-game schedule this fall. The abbreviated schedule has already cost Pearl River its No. 1 preseason ranking as the Wildcats fell to No. 5 in last week's poll without playing a game.

"Our players and coaches and everyone associated with the program is excited that we're going to get to play this week," ECCC head coach Terry Underwood said. "It's been kind of a roller coaster preseason. Going into the storm, we were a couple days away from opening up and playing. Then everything got set back three weeks. We're excited about having a chance to play."

The Warriors didn't lose any players as the result of the hurricane.

"That could effect those schools located below us, but we haven't lost anybody," Underwood said. "We had some players that had some of their homes effected."

Pearl River should be a formidable opponent for the Warriors.

"It's a very tough out," Underwood said. "They're the defending national champions, plus the two-time defending state champion. We're getting to open up with the best team from last year in our league. We've got a tough draw.

"It may be the best time to play them though. We know they expect to be as good or better, but we're excited about having the opportunity to play them.

"We need to play a football game. We're still going to make mistakes, but I hope we don't make too many, especially those that are game-costly.

"We've been practicing five to six weeks. We lost like we're in decent condition and we've had plenty of preparation."

The long layoff may have actually helped the Warriors, especially with the sudden loss of starting quarterback Robbie Morse prior to the hurricane.

"With Robbie deciding not to play, that gave more preparation for our other quarterbacks," Underwood said. "There's been some positives from the layoff."

"We look for the silver lining in the clouds and there were some things negative about not being here and not getting to play, but we had some kids that were injured that wouldn't have played. T.J. Rushing had to have his knee scoped and would have missed at least two to three games. We had some guys that had some tweaks with ankles and knees that have had time to recover."

It will be interesting to see if Pearl River, or any other Mississippi team, will be able to play for the 2005 national championship due to the limited schedule.

"It could effect our league, but I don't think the NJCAA ought to hold that against our top teams, because of what has been done," Underwood said. "It may effect our top two or three teams because we're only playing seven and we may have teams that will win nine or 10. But to me, with this league and the kind of competition we have, I think we can hold our own against anybody."

"Meet the Warriors" Thursday

The annual "Meet the Warriors" pep rally is scheduled for Thursday in downtown Decatur. Activities begin at 7 p.m. at the Citizens Bank parking lot located across the street from Spanky's Texaco Station. Station owner Robert Carleton III sponsors the annual event.

Participating in the program will be ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin; Warrior head football coach Terry Underwood, who will introduce team members and coaching staff; and cheerleader/Centralette coach Coco Boone, who will introduce members of her squads. Director of Bands Thomas W. Carson will serve as master of ceremonies.

The Warrior cheerleaders, Centralettes and the Wall O' Sound Marching Band are also scheduled to perform.

Revised Schedule

The Warriors will play all three home games in the shortened season at NCHS due to damages sustained by Katrina at Warrior Stadium. ECCC hosts Mississippi Gulf Coast for homecoming on Oct. 15 and will entertain Hinds on Oct. 22. Kickoff for both contests is set for 2:30 p.m.

The four road contests to complete the seven-game season are scheduled at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 29 at East Mississippi in Scooba; at 2:30 p.m. Oct. 8 at Copiah-Lincoln in Wesson; at 7 p.m. Oct. 27 at Jones in Ellisville; and at 7 p.m. Nov. 3 at Southwest Mississippi in Summit.

All Warrior football games can be heard on KICKS 98 (98.3 FM) in Carthage.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL X

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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WEEK OF Sept 26, 05

McClendon leads PRCC to victory

By Marty Stamper
staff writer

DECATUR — Something about Cougar Stadium brings out the best in Mike McClendon.

The 5-foot-10, 185-pound sophomore running back gained 235 yards and scored two touchdowns on 20 carries to lead Pearl River Community College to a 35-10 MACJC South Division win over East Central Community College in the season opener for both teams Saturday afternoon at Newton County High School.

As a senior at Quitman High School, McClendon rushed for 288 yards and scored three touchdowns on 23 carries to lead the Panthers to a 21-7 win over Newton County on this same field.

On the other side Saturday, ECCC's highly-touted high-octane offense sputtered most of the afternoon, especially in the first half as the Warriors had just 41 total yards going into halftime. Sixteen rushes lost 10 yards with Elijah McDonald completing 8-of-15 passes for 51 yards. The sophomore quarterback lost 45 yards on six carries in the first half.

For the game, the Warriors had only 156 total yards with 69 coming on 41 rushes and 87 coming on McDonald's 17-of-31 effort through the air.

> *Offensively, we struggled big time, We didn't produce on offense.*
>
> Warriors coach Terry Underwood

"Offensively, we struggled big time," ECCC head coach Terry Underwood said. "We didn't produce on offense. We didn't block well. We didn't execute. We didn't throw and catch well. We didn't do a lot of good things on offense. I was disappointed in our performance. We have got to get better if we expect to compete and if we expect to win ballgames."

After a scoreless first quarter that saw one Warrior drive end on a McDonald interception at the PRCC 5, the Wildcats covered 48 yards to go up 7-0 with 6:34 to play in the first half. Jimmy Oliver completed a 22-yard pass to Larry Freeman, then hit a sliding Kyle Sellers for a 9-yard gain on third-and-5 at the ECCC 18. On the next play, Oliver found Jeffery Smith wide open in the left corner of the

See **Warriors**
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APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Sept. 26, 05

PHOTO BY KYLE CARTER / THE MERIDIAN STAR

RUN THROUGH

East Central Community College's Terrance McFadden (5) breaks free while carrying the ball for the Warriors in the first quarter of play during their contest against Pearl River on Saturday. The Wildcats beat the Warriors 35-10, for a MACJC South division win in the season opener for both schools.

Sept. 26, 05

Warriors

From Page C1

end zone for a touchdown. Scott Hillery kicked the first of his five extra points.

The Warriors had a chance to go into halftime down 7-0, despite getting no first downs in the second quarter, but poor clock management enabled the Wildcats to double their lead in the final minute of the second period.

ECCC took possession at its 20 with 1:45 to go in the half and PRCC was out of timeouts. A third down incompletion on third-and-2 forced a Warrior punt and the Wildcats took over at the ECCC 48 with 51.3 seconds still remaining. Oliver hit Smith, who put a move on ECCC's George Lowe and raced to the end zone as the Wildcats went up 14-0 with 33.2 seconds left in the half.

"That was a big mistake on my part," Underwood said. "We shouldn't have done that. We had a miscommunication on one of the plays. We shouldn't have thrown the ball and we did and it stopped the clock. Had we run it, we might have gotten the first down and we might not have, but it would have obviously run some more clock off. That was a big mistake at that point and time. If we go in 7-0, that's a huge difference than being down 14-0."

The Warriors closed to within 14-3 on a 50-yard field goal by Ryan Gale with 6:34 left in the third quarter. Marcus Arrington gave ECCC possession at its 36 when he picked off an Oliver pass. The Warriors were quickly forced to punt, but the drive was kept alive when Pearl River was penalized for having too many players on the field.

The Wildcats answered the field goal when McClendon took a delayed option pitch from Oliver 56 yards with 5:01 to go in the third period for a 21-3 lead.

A 7-yard run by Seth Hayden extended the PRCC lead to 28-3 with 8:56 left in the game.

Another interception led to ECCC's only touchdown. Starting at the PRCC 11 after an 18-yard return and personal foul penalty on the Wildcats, Terrance McFadden scored on a 3-yard run with 5:22 to play. Gale's PAT made it 28-10.

McClendon raced 65 yards with 1:02 left to finish the scoring. Pearl River had 363 total yards with 216 coming on 34 rushes and 147 more on Oliver's 13-of-33 showing in the air. Oliver suffered four interceptions.

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PHOTOS BY ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

Above, East Central's Tim Stamper (53) and George Maddox (99) close in on Pearl River running back Mike McClendon. Below, East Central's Ivon Hickmon defends against a pass in the Warriors' 35-10 loss to Pearl River.

ECCC falls to Pearl River

East Central Community College's Warriors were simply no match for the defending national champion Pearl River Community College Wildcats who claimed a 35-10 victory Saturday afternoon in the season opener for both teams.

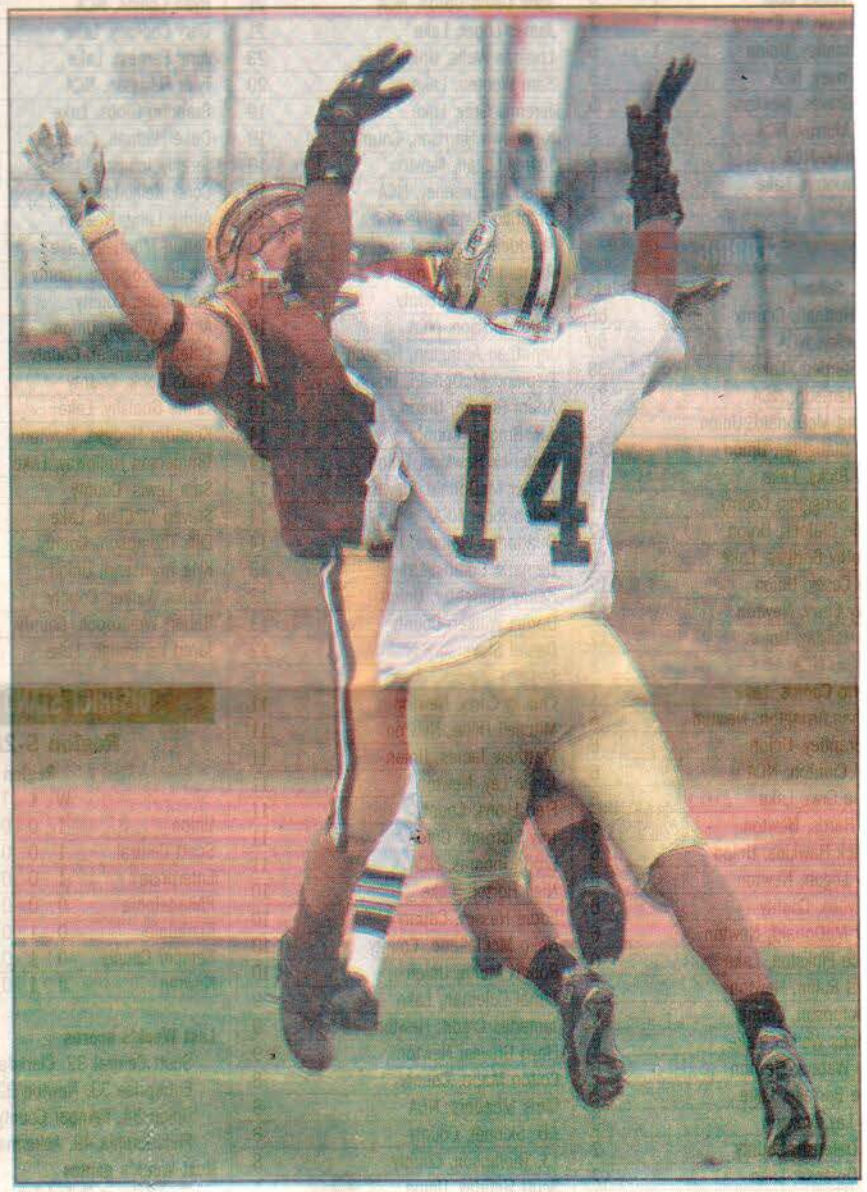
PRCC 35
ECCC 10

The South Division match-up - a "home" game for East Central - was played at Newton County High School due to damages sustained at Warrior Stadium by Hurricane Katrina.

After a scoreless first quarter, Pearl River- the pre-season pick to repeat as national champions - took the lead for good midway in the second period when quarterback Jimmy Oliver of Columbia fired a nine-yard strike to wide receiver Jeffery Smith of Hattiesburg. Scott Hillery of Picayune added the first of his four PATs.

Oliver and Smith teamed up for the Wildcats' second tally, a 48-yard scoring pass play with just 33 seconds left before halftime.

The Warriors got on the scoreboard with 6:34 remaining in the third stanza on Ryan Gale's 50-yard field goal. Gale, a sophomore,



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WEEK OF Sept 26, 05

ECCC

From Page 18

yard field goal. Gale, a sophomore, is a product of Oak Mountain High School in Birmingham, Ala.

Pearl River responded with a 56-yard touchdown scamper by running back Mike McClendon of Quitman with five minutes left in the third, extending the Wildcat lead to 23-3.

Running back Seth Hayden of Pearl River Central gave his team a 28-3 lead early in the final stanza when he found the end zone on a seven-yard burst.

East Central found pay-dirt with just over five minutes remaining on tailback Terrance's McFadden's two-yard run, capping a short scoring drive set up when Warrior defensive back George Lowe of Columbus intercepted a Wildcat pass on the Pearl River 40 and returned it to the 21. A personal foul penalty moved the ball to the 11, and McFadden, a sophomore from American Heritage High School in Pompano Beach, Fla., tallied four plays later. Gale added the PAT.

Pearl River closed out the scoring when McClendon sprinted past the EC defense on a 65-yard jaunt with just a minute remaining.

East Central had 356 yards total offense and seven first downs. Quarterback Elijah McDonald of Morton completed 16 of 33 passes for 19 yards and had one interception. Leten Fortune of South Leake was the top receiver with seven catches for 39 yards. McFadden was the leading rusher with 90 yards on 23 carries and one touchdown.

Pearl River had 394 yards of offense and 11 first downs. Oliver completed 14 of 33 passes for 190 yards and two scores. He had three interceptions.

McClendon was the workhorse for the Wildcats, as he rushed 18 times for 190 yards.

East Central goes on the road this week to take on East Mississippi Community College at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, September 29 in Scooba. The Lions fell 11-14 to Mississippi Delta Community College last week.

All Warrior football games can be on heard on the ECCC website (www.eccc.edu) and on KICKS 98 (98.3 FM) in Carthage featuring veteran broadcasters Melvin Wooten and Gilbert Barham.

ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central's Terrance McFadden runs for some positive yardage against Pearl River. McFadden led the Warriors on offense with 90 yards on 23 carries.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

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TAKE THAT

East Central Community College's Lenny Boatner, left, tried to hold off East Mississippi Community College's Jeffrey Weeks during the third quarter of their game Thursday night.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

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09-26-05

Warriors blank Lions for first win

By Robby Byrd
assistant sports editor

SCOOBA — Before Thursday night's football game between East Central Community College and East Mississippi Community College, both coaches knew a win was important to the morale and future of their teams.

EMCC will continue to search for their first win of the season, after the Warriors (1-1) scored a 26-0 win over the homestanding Lions (0-2).

"I'm very proud," said ECCC coach Terry Underwood. "Last week, we did a lot of things to shoot ourselves in the foot, but this week, the defense came out and got the shut out for us. The defense did an outstanding job. This is a big win for us to build our confidence going into district play."

It took ECCC almost 13 minutes to score its first touchdown of the game, but when Warriors started the Lions could not stop their offensive attack.

"I feel totally disappointed right now," said EMCC coach Roger Carr. "We failed at every point of the game. We made mistakes and had a lot of penalties, and we had no consistency on offense in the game."

With 2:58 left in the first quarter, ECCC's David McCants ran the ball into the end zone for a 2-yard score. His run along with Ryan Gale's succcessful PAT put the Warriors ahead 7-0.

> *I'm very proud. Last week, we did a lot of things to shoot ourselves in the foot, but this week, the defense came out and got the shut out for us.*
>
> ECCC coach
> Terry Underwood

ECCC began the scoring drive on its 45-yard line. The drive was highlighted by a 23-yard completion from quarterback Elijah McDonald to wide receiver Lonnie Starks that set up the first-and-goal situation from the Lions' 2-yard line.

In the second quarter, the Warriors put together a 14-play, 77-yard scoring drive that was capped by a 3-yard run by McCants.

On the first play of EMCC's next drive, quarterback Drew Harper threw an interception into the hands of ECCC's Kris Thomas, which gave the Warrior the ball on the Lions'

See Warriors
Page B3

09-26-05

Warriors –

From Page B1

31-yard line.

Harper was filling in at quarterback for Chris Mitchell, who was injured last week in the Lions' opening contest against Mississippi Delta Community College.

The Warriors wasted little time getting into the end zone following the turnover. After a false start penalty, McDonald completed a 35-yard pass to Chris Lark that set up a 1-yard touchdown run by McCants.

The Warriors scored again in the half on their next possession this time off the foot of kicker Ryan Gale, who connected on a 25-yard attempt to give the Warriors a 24-0 lead going into the break.

ECCC's defense held the Lions to only 34 yards of total offense in the first half and limited the Lions to one first down in the game's first 30 minutes.

McCants carried the ball 11 times for the Warriors in the first half for 56 yards and notched three touchdowns to account for 21 of ECCC's total first-half scoring output.

The Lions' defense held the Warriors' offense scoreless in the second half. ECCC's second-half points came on a safety early in the fourth quarter.

With the Lions on their 13-yard line, EMCC punter Hunter Porter fumbled the snap out of the back of the end zone, giving ECCC two points.

"We came back on Sunday and we (coaches and players) put the Pearl game behind us," Underwood said about this week's practice sessions. "This was a challenge for our kids to come up here and play our best. They all worked hard. I still think we can do better, but I'm proud of what we did."

McDonald completed 14-of-20 passing for 103 yards for the Warriors, while McCants only added another 23 yards to his rushing total in the second half. He finished with 79 rushing yards.

ECCC will travel to Copiah-Lincoln Community College next week, while the Lions will take on Northwest Community College at home.

WEEK OF Sept 2005

www.meridianstar.com

EMCC, ECCC to be a

By Robby Byrd
assistant sports editor

SCOOBA — Both East Mississippi and East Central Community Colleges are coming off opening game losses to two of the top community college football teams in the state, and tonight one of them will grab their first win of the 2005 season while the other will start the season at 0-2.

The Lions and the Warriors will meet up at 6:30 p.m. in Scooba for a game that both coaches feel will be physical if nothing else.

"They (ECCC) have a good defense," said EMCC coach Roger Carr, whose team fell to Mississippi Delta Community College on Sept. 22 31-14. "I look for a good physical football game with two good defenses. I just hope we can hold them and get a win."

ECCC coach Terry Underwood sees a lot of similarity between his team and their opponent this week. Not so much in what they will try to do on the field, but for the situation both teams are in at this point in the season.

> *They have a good defense. I look for a good physical football game with two good defenses. I just hope we can hold them and get a win.*
>
> **EMCC coach Roger Carr**

"East Mississippi has a mighty fine team," said Underwood, whose team dropped their home opener to Pearl River Community College 35-10. "They are in the same position as we're in right now. We're both trying to regroup and get into the win column this week. We both played two of the better teams

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR X

CLARION-LEDGER _____

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physical affair

in the state last week."

As much as both coaches recognize the other's situation, they recognize their own need to win this week's game in a season that was cut short to six games in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

The Lions hope they can regroup and get production out of their back up quarterback Drew Harper, a Southeast Lauderdale High School standout, who is getting the starting job after the Lions starter Chris Mitchell went down with an ankle injury last week.

"Drew (Harper) did a good job standing in for us last week," Carr said. "We've just got to protect him."

The Warriors will also take the field without one of their starters. Offensive tackle Ross Tew sustained a knee injury during the game with PRCC last Saturday that will keep him out of today's game. He will be replaced by Jonathan Pickens from Philadelphia, who Underwood says is a capable replacement.

"Ross (Tew) is the starter but we had planned on both him and Jonathan (Pickens) getting a lot of playing time this season," Underwood said.

Underwood said that both his offensive and defensive lines will play a major role in the game plan today against the Lions.

"They're (EMCC) very big up front on both sides of the ball, and they're very physical," Underwood said. "We have to match that. Our defensive line has got to get to their passer and our offensive line has to be strong against their defensive front."

The game will be the first home game for the Lions this season and both Carr and Underwood expect a large crowd and a tense environment.

"Scooba is a tough place to play," Underwood said. "We're just going to try to get back on track and into the win column."

ECUF - 24 football
July - Dec 2005

East Central falls, takes on EMCC

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
Staff Reporter

DECATUR – The East Central Community College Warriors will be looking to get their season on track Thursday night when they visit area rival East Mississippi.

Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m.

Both teams lost their season openers. East Central dropped a 35-10 decision to defending national champion Pearl River Saturday afternoon in a game played at Newton County High School. The Lions, meanwhile, fell 31-14 to Mississippi Delta last Thursday.

"This series has a lot of history," said ECCC coach Terry Underwood. "Many of the players know each other. It's a good rivalry.

"This is the only non-division game we will play this season, but it is still very important. Both teams are looking down the barrel of a 0-2 start, and neither wants to do that," Barrel said.

East Central will hope to have a better offensive performance against East Mississippi than they did against Pearl River.

Pearl River had a 378-156 edge in total yards gained on offense. The Wildcats had 195 yards rushing on 33 carries, and 183 yards passing. East Central turned in 67 yards rushing and 89 yards passing against the two-time defending state champions.

"Pearl River has a great team, and our defense really played a good game," said Underwood. "But we were inconsistent on offense and with our kicking game. We have got to get better."

The Warriors stayed even with Pearl River during the first quarter and through the first part of the second period.

Photo by Kyle Carter

Ken Chathman hauls in a pass.

Then Pearl River took possession on the ECCC 48-yard line. Sophomore quarterback Jimmy Oliver connected with receiver Larry Freeman on a 21-yard pass play to put the Wildcats on the ECCC 24. Two plays later, Oliver found Kyle Sellers on an eight-yard pass play that gave the Wildcats a first-and-goal on the ECCC 9. On the next play, Oliver connected with Jeffery Smith on a nine-yard touchdown play. Scott Hillery booted the two-point conversion and ECCC led 7-0 with 6:34 left in the half.

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WEEK OF Sept 26, 05

That's how it stood until the final minute of the half. The Warriors had the ball and Underwood intended to run out the clock. However, a miscommunication with first-year quarterback Elijah McDonald resulted in a pass play being called on third down. It was incomplete and the clock was stopped. East Central was forced to punt on the next down and Pearl River made the most of it.

On first down, Oliver connected with Smith on a 48-yard touchdown pass play. Hillery kicked the extra point and Pearl River held a 14-0 lead at the half.

"I won't say that cost us the game, but it was a pivotal point," said Underwood. "We had a little miscommunication. Instead of us going in down 7-0, we were down 14-0, and that's a 14 point swing."

he Warriors were driving for the end zone early in the third quarter but an interesting offensive pass interference call in the end zone backed them up to PRCC 34. The Warriors had to settle for a Ryan Gale 50-yard field goal and trailed 14-3 with 8:54 left in the third quarter.

Pearl River came right back and scored another touchdown. This time, Mike McClendon broke loose for a 56-yard TD run. Hillery booted the extra point and BCCC led 21-3 with 5:01 left in the period.

Pearl River added a pair of touchdowns in the fourth quarter. Seth Hayden scored on a seven-yard run. Hillery's extra point gave the Wildcats a 28-3 edge with 8:56 remaining.

An interception then set up BCCC's only touchdown. George Lowe picked the ball off, giving BCCC a first down on the PRCC 11-yard line. Four plays later, Terrance McFadden scored on a one-yard run. Gale booted the extra point and Pearl River led 28-10 with 5:22 left to play.

Late in the game, McClendon got loose on a 65-yard TD run. Hillery was true on the kick to end the scoring. Officially, McClendon finished the day with 202 yards on 19 carries.

BCCC's Gabe Amie runs away from the Pearl River defense.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WEEK OF 10/03/05

ECCC continues dominance of EMCC

East Central Community College's much-advertised new offense scored all the points it needed in the first half and the Warrior defense stymied the East Mississippi Community College offensive attack as East Central pitched a 26-0 shutout over its longtime rival Thursday night in Scooba.

The non-division victory was the first for EC in 2005, while East Mississippi dropped to 0-2.

Warrior head coach Terry Underwood said after the game he was "very proud" of his team, which moved to record at 3-1 after falling 35-10 to defending national champion Pearl River Community College in the season opener.

"Our offense did a lot of good things and the defense did an outstanding job. This is a big win for us to build our confidence as we resume a tough division schedule," Underwood stated.

Freshman running back David McCants, a product of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School, scored all three of EC's touchdowns on short runs.

His first tally came on a 1-yard plunge with 2:54 left in the first period. Key plays during the eight-play, 65-yard march included a 16-yard pass from quarterback Elijah McDonald to wide receiver Allen Stewart and a 24-yard screen pass from McDonald to wide receiver Lonnie Stubbs, which gave EC first-and-goal at the 1. Ryan Gale added the first of his three extra points.

McCants scored twice in the second period, the first coming on a 3-yard blast with 9:58 remaining until halftime and the other on a 1-yard burst at the 8:10 mark.

Touchdown!!

Warrior running back David McCants (25) scores one of his three touchdowns in East Central Community College's 26-0 blanking of East Mississippi Community College Thursday night in Scooba. McCants is a product of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School. Teammate Lenny Bratner (8) of Winston Academy points to the end zone indicating a Warrior touchdown. *(ECCC photo)*

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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Key plays during the first scoring drive of the second quarter — which covered 76 yards and took 13 plays — included McDonald's 8-yard scamper, a 9-yard strike from McDonald to Chris Lark, and an 8-yard pass from McDonald to Letez Fortune. A pass interference call also aided the Warrior drive on a third down play and gave EC a first down on the East Mississippi 16.

McCants' third tally was set up when Warrior defensive back Kris Thomas intercepted Lion quarterback Drew Harper's pass at the East Mississippi 31. After EC was penalized five yards for illegal procedure, McDonald fired a 35-yard strike to Lark, who stretched his 6-foot-2 frame to make a leaping catch over two Lion defenders at the 1-yard line.

A 25-yard field goal by Gale with 3:46 left completed first-half scoring, and EC held a commanding 24-0 lead at halftime.

With the game at hand in the second half, EC played a lot of back-ups. DeAngelo Carter and Josh Lowery both saw action at quarterback. Lowery was especially impressive, as he completed a 30-yard strike to Stewart, a 13-yarder to Lenny Boatner and a 6-yard toss to Fortune.

The Warrior defense — which limited East Mississippi to just 99 yards total offense, including minus 18 yards rushing — was credited with the game's final points when punter Hunter Porter was unable to handle the snap from center while punting from the end zone with 12:49 remaining in the contest. Linebacker Paul Tolbert had earlier sacked the Lions' quarterback for a 13-yard loss setting up Porter's punt from the end zone.

EC finished with 337 yards on offense, with 100 coming on the ground and 237 in the air. McCants was the leading rushing with 56 yards on 17 carries and three scores. McDonald completed 15-of-22 passes for 177 yards. Lark was the top receiver with four catches for 47 yards. The Warriors had 20 first downs.

The Warriors travel to Copiah-Lincoln Community College Saturday, Oct. 8 for a 2:30 p.m. kickoff on the Wesson campus. The Wolves won their season opener by defeating Northwest Mississippi Comm-unity College 16-6. The Wolves fell 30-27 to Gulf Coast Community College last Saturday in Wesson.

"Co-Lin is a very talented football team; probably as improved as anybody I've seen since last year," Underwood said. "They've recruited well. They're very big and strong.

"Their quarterback is probably the best player we have played, including (Pearl River's) Jimmy Oliver.

All Warrior football games can be heard on the college's website, www.eccc.edu and on KICKS 98 (98.3 FM) in Carthage.

WEEK OF 10/10/05

ECCC downs Co-Lin for second win of year

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
Staff Reporter

The East Central Warriors claimed their second victory in a row Saturday as they knocked off the Co-Lin Wolves 12-7.

The Warriors now stand at 2-1 overall and 1-1 in the South Division.

"I'm proud of our team," said coach Terry Underwood. "This game could have gone either way. It was a very physical game and Co-Lin was big.

"It got down to who could run the ball and who could stop the run. Our defense played another strong game, and the offense is coming along. We had some kids who were hurt during the game and kept playing. It was that kind of game."

To our drawing praise from Underwood for toughing it out were linebacker Headrick Fickling, linemen Jo-cen Dobbins and Montero Baker, free safety Jamie Neal and defensive back Marcus Arrington.

"They could have come out of the game but they kept playing. That's the kind of football game it was," Underwood said.

East Central got on the scoreboard first when quarterback Josh Lowery found Derrick Qualls on an 18-yard touchdown pass play. Ryan Gale missed the extra point and the Warriors led 6-0.

Co-Lin took the lead later in the game when Maurice Taylor scored on a two-yard run. The extra point was good and the Wolves led 7-6 at the intermission.

David McCantis scored on a 12-yard run with a minute left in the third quarter. The PAT try failed and the Warriors led 12-7.

"Our defense really stepped up and kept Co-Lin out of the end zone in the finally quarter," Underwood said.

Photo by Kyle Carter

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10/10/05

McCantis led the Warriors with 133 yards on 27 carries.

East Central had 201 yards rushing and 98 passing for 299 total offensive yards. The ECCC defense only allowed the Wolves 94 offensive yards with 55 coming on the ground off of 33 carries, and 39 in the air.

The Warriors celebrate Homecoming Saturday when they host Gulf Coast at Newton County High School. Kickoff is set for 2:30 p.m.

"This is going to be a real test for us," said Underwood. "Gulf Coast has a tough offense and we are going to really be tested. This could be the most important game of the season.

"We have been on the road for two games now and we are looking forward to playing at home."

ECCC QB ElijahMcDonald looks for a passing lane in recent action.

WEEK OF 10/2/05

EC downs Co-Lin, 12-7

Freshman running back David McCants' 12-yard touchdown run late in the third period gave East Central Community College the lead for good and the Warriors held on for a 12-7 South Division victory over Copiah-Lincoln Community College Saturday in Wesson.

With the win, East Central improved to 2-1 overall and 1-1 in league play, while the Wolves dropped to 1-2 and 1-1.

Warrior head coach Terry Underwood was obviously pleased with his team's efforts in recording their second-straight victory of the 2005 campaign.

"I was very proud of our team for finding a way to win," he said. "It was a very physical game, and several of our players were banged up and bruised but they continued to play. Our defense really came up big.

"Overall, it was a great team effort and I was especially proud of our team's toughness....they did what they had to do to win."

McCants scored the game-clinching touchdown with a minute left in the third period, capping a six-play, 48-yard drive.

McCants also had runs of 11 and two yards during the march but the key play was a 29-yard burst by sophomore running back Derrick Qualls of Forest, which gave EC possession on the Wolves' 12 yard line. McCants scored on the next play. The try for the two-point conversion was not successful, as Lowery's pass attempt to Lonnie Starks fell incomplete.

Lowery led the EC offense after starter McDonald left the contest midway in the second period due to an ankle injury.

On his first series as the Warrior signal caller, Lowery directed the Warrior offense on a seven-play, 44-yard march capped by his 19-yard touchdown strike to Qualls with 5:04 left before halftime. Grey LaPrade missed on his PAT attempt.

Co-Lin took a 7-6 lead late in the first half when quarterback Cedric Johnson tallied on a two-yard run with just 56 seconds remaining. Nick Gunter of Wesson added the PAT.

The Warrior defense kept the Co-Lin attack in check most of the day, and did not allow the Wolves into EC territory following the go-ahead score.

The Warrior offense also made key plays to maintain possession late in the contest, including a 25-yard pass completion from Lowery to Qualls on third and 10 at the Warrior 15, and McCants' six-yard burst for a first down at midfield, which allowed EC to run out the clock for the win.

McCants led EC in rushing with 132 yards on 27 carries and one score. Lowery completed six of 14 passes for 80 yards and a touchdown.

McDonald was four of 12 with 16 yards prior to leaving the game with an injury. Qualls was the leading receiver with two receptions for 44 yards and a touchdown.

Linebacker Paul Tolbert led the Warrior defense with seven tackles and six assists. Defensive back Ivan Hickmon had eight solos and two assists.

The Warriors host Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College for homecoming this Saturday.

Kickoff is set for 2:30 p.m. at Newton County High School.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 10/7/15

Call off the Dogs

East Central's Lenny Boatner (9) is hemmed up by a pack of Gulf Coast Bulldogs in Saturday's homecoming contest at Decatur. EC will host Hinds Saturday at 2:30 p.m. *Photo by Marty Stamper.*

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

10/17/05

Warriors fall 35-17 to Gulf Coast

by Marty Stamper

When you get beat by a better team, about all you can do is look ahead to what's next.

The East Central Community College Warriors met that fate Saturday afternoon as they dropped a 35-17 MACJC South Division contest to Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.

The Warriors fell to 1-2 in the division and 2-2 overall. Gulf Coast, ranked 17th nationally, improved to 3-1 both overall and in league play.

We knew Gulf Coast had a good football team," EC head coach Terry Underwood said. "We knew we had to play our very best and not make mistakes. We were in it the first half and then the second half, they came out and made some big plays on us and we didn't respond. I salute them. They've got a real good football team.

"They had the better football team today, no doubt. Offensively, they attack you in a lot of ways. They run the option and they can throw the football well. They've got really exceptional guys at the skill positions. They have good receivers and good backs and their quarterback operates their offense well. It's a hard offense to prepare for in one week.

"We knew that it was going to be a challenge. We knew that our offense needed to respond and try to match them. I thought we moved the ball, but we didn't put it in the end zone enough. We didn't do what we had to do."

The Warriors took a 7-0 lead with 13:19 remaining in the second quarter on a 1-yard run by David McCants. Ryan Gale added the extra point. The score capped a 12-play, 67-yard drive.

The Bulldogs drew even with 7:20 left in the half when Bernard Seymour scored from a yard out to cap a 14-play, 84-yard march. Trey Read added the PAT.

Gulf Coast went up 14-7 on a 6-yard run by Dantrell Savage with 1:16 to go before halftime. Quarterback Eric Walden set up the score with a 38-yard gain to the 14 on an option keeper. Savage needed only two carries to find the end zone. The 78-yard drive took seven plays.

The Warriors closed to within 14-10 on a 32-yard field goal by Gale with 33.6 seconds left in the half. An 83-yard kickoff return by Lonnie Starks to the Gulf Coast 15 set up the score.

Seymour scored on a 1-yard run on Gulf Coast's first possession of the third quarter to give the Bulldogs a 21-10 lead. Savage had a 27-yard gain on the drive.

Co-Eric Riley's 20-yard one-handed touchdown grab of a Walden pass with 9:35 left in the third quarter put the Bulldogs up 28-10.

The Warriors used a dab of trickery to close to within 28-17. Facing fourth down, Ken Gordon ran 51 yards from punt formation to put EC in business at the Gulf Coast 3. Josh Lowery hit Colby Amis for a 2-yard scoring toss with 2:18 left in the third period.

"We've worked on it all year," Underwood said of the fake punt. "It was something that, if we called it, it had an opportunity to break for a big play and it did. That set up a touchdown and I thought we could gain some momentum off of it, but we weren't able to come back over the hill."

The only scoring of the fourth quarter came when Gulf Coast's Marquise Powell recovered a blocked EC punt in the end zone with 8:01 to play.

Lowery completed 22-of-47 passes for 226 yards. Letez Fortune had eight receptions for 54 yards. McCants had 13 carries for 54 yards.

Savage led Gulf Coast with 135 yards on 20 carries.

The Warriors host Hinds this Saturday in their final home game of 2005. The Warriors are 0-2 at home this year, but are 2-0 on the road.

The Eagles knocked off Copiah-Lincoln 28-13 last week to even their overall record at 2-2. Hinds is 1-2 in division play.

WEEK OF 10/17/05

East Central's defense no match for Gulf Coast's 'O'

By JEFF EDWARDS
Sports Editor

In a match-up of the state's best junior college offense vs. the state's best JUCO defense, the offense won hands down in the form of Gulf Coast Community College's 35-17 win over East Central.

We knew Gulf Coast had a strong football team and we knew we had to play our best and not make mistakes," ECCC coach Terry Underwood said. "We were in it there in the first half and the second half they came out and asserted themselves. They made some big plays on us and we didn't respond."

The big plays Underwood was referring to are the two demorilizing touchdowns Gulf Coast put together early in the third quarter after leading only 14-10 at halftime.

The Bulldogs put together a six play, 60 yard scoring drive on their first drive of the second half to expand their lead to 21-10. The big play on the drive was a 30 yard run by Dantrell Savage. The drive was capped off with a one yard touchdown plunge by bruising fullback Bernard Seymour, his second TD of the day.

GCCC struck again just four minutes later after Warrior quarterback Josh Lowery threw one of his three interceptions on the day to set the Bulldogs up at the 21 yard line. Gulf Coast needed only one play to score, with Jarel Preston making a diving, one handed catch in the back corner of the end zone to put the Bulldogs up 28-10 with 9:35 remaining in the third quarter.

East Central quarterback Josh Lowery prepare to throw against Gulf Coast Community College. Lowery, who was making his first career start, completed 23 of 44 passes for 218 yards with a touchdown.

APP

LAK

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

IMPACT

CARTHAGINIAN

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT

NEWTON RECORD

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

10/17/05

East Central tried to get back in the ballgame late in the third quarter after getting a 51yard run by Ken Gordon on a fake punt on fourth and 15 to set the Warriors up with a first and goal from the three. Lowery found Colby Amus for a two yard touchdown pass on the second play after the run to close the gap to 28-17. However, the Warriors could not capitalize on the momentum.

Two possessions later, Gulf Coast put the game away for good when they blocked a Warrior punt, and Marquise Powell fell on it in the end zone for a 35-17 lead with eight minutes left in the game.

"We were glad that (the fake punt) set up a touchdown. Underwood said. "I thought we could gain some momentum off of it but we weren't able to come back over the hill."

East Central jumped out to a 7-0 lead early in the second quarter when David McCants bulled his way into the end zone from one yard out. Lowery was big on the drive, completing passes for 14, 10, 27 and 16 yards on the drive. Lowery, making his first career start after regular starter Elijah McDonald went down with an ankle injury last week, finished the game 23-44 for 218 yards, with a touchdown and three interceptions. Underwood said that he was generally pleased with how he played, but he made the usual freshman mistakes.

"He's still a freshman, he's going to make some mistakes," Underwood said. "He probably didn't make some reads he was supposed to make but I thought he stood in the pocket and tried to throw the ball and move our offense."

Gulf Coast quickly answered the ECCC touchdown with two of their own, the first coming on Seymour's two yard plunge and the second on Savage's six yard run with 1:16 left before halftime.

However, the Warriors were able to grab some momentum back before the intermission when Lonnie Starks returned the ensuing kickoff 83 yards to the 15 yard line. The Warriors converted the good field position into points when Ryan Gale knocked home a 37 yard field goal with 34 seconds left before the half.

East Central had a chance to make the score closer before halftime after recovering a fumble at the Bulldog 33, but Gale's 51 yard field goal attempt was blocked as the first half clock expired.

Hinds vs. ECCC
Oct. 22, 2:30 p.m.
Newton County High School, Decatur

10-24-05

Warriors continue long year

By Marty Stamper
staff writer

DECATUR — Back in mid-August, this football season looked promising for East Central Community College.

The only sure thing now for the Warriors is that they will be through in another week.

High hopes began to unravel when returning quarterback Robbie Morse left the team for personal reasons before the first game.

Then Hurricane Katrina delayed the season and destroyed a good bit of the facilities at Warrior Stadium, forcing ECCC to play its home games at Newton County High School.

"I think that's factored in big," ECCC head coach Terry Underwood said. "You don't ever want to make excuses, but Katrina affected all of us, some, especially the teams South of us, more than others.

"Starting the season, the teams that had more sophomores back were way ahead. We lost some key players. Robbie Morse had some personal problems. Terrance McFadden came up ineligible. We had an out-of-state linebacker that was with us in summer school that had some personal problems and didn't report.

"You could name a lot of names with injuries, whatever. If you add all that, along with not being able to open up with a non-conference schedule, you see the problem.

"The non-conference schedule is

See **Warriors**
Page D2

PHOTO BY KYLE CARTER / THE MERIDIAN STAR

TRIPPED UP

East Central Community College's Elijah McDonald is tripped up by an East Mississippi Community College defender in the two teams game this season. The Warriors face MACJC South Division foe Jones tonight. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.

WEEK OF [illegible]5

Warriors

From Page D1

big because, whether you win or lose, you find out a lot about your team. These freshmen get to get a lot of reps under their belt.

"We're not the only ones that had to jump into the meat of their schedule, but I've talked to other coaches that have said it's been a really weird year. It's been a weird year for all of us and it started with Katrina.

"You can make excuses, and that's not what I'm trying to do, but it has been a lot of different angles that have affected our team in a lot of different ways.

"We've got two more and we've got to try to get as prepared as we can, starting with Jones. Both of them are on the road. I used to worry about that, but we've won our two on the road. Hopefully, we can find a way to come out and play hard."

Kickoff with Jones is set for 7 p.m. tonight at Ellisville. The Bobcats are 2-2 in the MACJC South Division and 2-3 overall. ECCC is 1-3 and 2-3.

"They've got an awful lot to play for," Underwood said of the Bobcats. "They're 2-3 overall, but they've beaten Southwest, which beat Gulf Coast. Gulf Coast plays Hinds this week, so there are a lot of scenarios and Jones is not out of it.

"Jones' three losses are potentially to the top three teams in the state in Northeast, Gulf Coast and Pearl River. They've beaten Southwest and Co-Lin. They've played a very formidable schedule.

"I anticipate them being really ready to play. They're coming off a good game with Co-Lin. We're going to have our hands full. We'd better, somehow or another, get ourselves ready to play or it will be a long night."

The Warriors played lethargic in last week's 38-6 loss to Hinds.

"We've tried to put that one Saturday (with Hinds) behind us because I just didn't think there were any positives to dwell on," Underwood said.

"We just want to try to get ready for these last two as best we can and we start with Jones on the road. I'm excited that we're going to get to play at night. This will be only our second night game of the year and our second Thursday game."

Both teams have struggled on offense. Jones is averaging 13.8 points, while ECCC puts up 12.2 points. The Bobcats are allowing 25.6 points, while the Warriors surrender 23 points per outing.

ECCC averages 307 yards in total offense to 253.2 yards for Jones. The Warriors are better defensively as well, allowing 275.4 total yards to 431.6 for Jones.

Individually, Brett Hyatt has completed 109-of-179 passes for 1,098 yards and three touchdowns for Jones. ECCC's Josh Lowery is 55-of-101 for 535 yards and two touchdowns. Marcus Pitts has 27 catches for 374 yards and Jerrod Gaines has 32 receptions for 221 yards for Jones. ECCC's Letez Fortune has 26 catches for 174 yards. Chris Lark has 19 receptions for 194 yards for the Warriors.

ECCC's David McCants has picked up 374 yards on 78 carries.

Defensively, Michael Johnson leads Jones in tackles with 44 solo stops and 22 assists. Paul Tolbert leads ECCC with 35 solos and 17 assists. Ivan Hickman adds 29 solos and eight assists for the Warriors.

APPEAL

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 10/24/05

Incomplete

East Central's Derrick Qualls (4) is unable to haul in a pass during Saturday's 38-6 loss to Hinds at Decatur. Defending is LeAndrew Hicks (17). The Warriors go to Ellisville to take on Jones Thursday night at 7 p.m. *Photo by Marty Stampor.*

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL X

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

10/24/05

EC Warriors lose 38-6 to Hinds

by Marty Stamper

Hinds Community College scored on a pair of long touchdown passes in the first half and took control early of Saturday's 38-6 MACJC South Division win over East Central Community College at Decatur.

ECCC fell to 2-3 overall and 1-3 in the division. Hinds improved to 3-2 and 2-2.

"We got beaten about every way you can get beat," ECCC head coach Terry Underwood said. "It's been a long time since I've been beaten like this as a coach.

"Usually, we have some more positive things happen than we did today. I take full responsibility. We didn't play very well; we didn't play good at all in any particular phase of the game. They took it to us and we got a good, old-fashioned butt whipping."

The Eagles got a 50-yard touchdown pass from Seth Adams to Jabary Gipson barely three-and-a-half minutes into the contest at Cougar Stadium on the Newton County High School campus. Jess Shelby kicked the first of his five extra points.

ECCC closed to within 7-3 on a 47-yard field goal by Chris Gale with 6:11 remaining in the opening period.

Adams and Gipson connected again, this time on a 73-yard scoring toss, with 12:05 showing in the second quarter.

The Warriors closed to within 14-6 on a 37-yard field goal by Gale with 2:42 to go before halftime, but gave up a 34-yard field goal by Shelby 16 seconds before intermission to trail 17-6 at the break.

Hinds removed all suspense with three touchdowns in the third quarter. The first came on a 38-yard touchdown toss from Adams to Pat Winn less than two minutes into the second half.

Adams combined with Randy Blackmon on a 16-yard scoring toss with 7:28 showing in the third quarter. Adams completed 15-of-30 passes for 363 yards and four touchdowns.

Hinds' final touchdown came when David Cooper took a fumble by ECCC quarterback Josh Lowery 36 yards with 4:08 to go in the third period.

ECCC, which went 0-3 in its games at Cougar Stadium, travels to Jones Thursday night with a 7 p.m. kickoff in Ellisville.

The Bobcats are 2-3 overall and 2-2 in the division following their 17-14 squeaker over Copiah-Lincoln last week.

WEEK OF

Hinds aerial attack bombs ECCC

Hinds Community College quarterback Seth Adams ripped the East Central Community College defense for 302 yards and four touchdowns and led the Eagles to a 38-6 whipping of the Warriors Saturday afternoon on the Newton County High School field in Decatur.

With the win, East Central falls to 2-3 overall and 0-3 in the South Division, while the Eagles improve to 5-2 and 2-0.

Adams, a product of Marshall Academy, hooked up with wide receiver Jabary Gipson of Murrah High School for touchdown strikes of 50 and 75 yards in first-half action, and in the third period connected with wide receiver Pat Winn of Gilbertown for a 38-yard tally followed by a 36-yard pass to wide receiver Randy Blackmon of Miami, Fla.

Hinds also scored on a 34-yard field goal by Jess Shelby of Terry with 34 seconds left before halftime, and added the game's final points on a 36-yard fumble return by defensive lineman David Cooper of Pearl with just over four minutes remaining in the third stanza.

Shelby made all five PATs.

East Central scored its only points on field goals by sophomore Ryan Gale, a product of Oak Mountain High School in Birmingham. Gale connected on a 47-yarder which cut the Hinds' lead to 7-3 with 6:11 left in the first quarter, and split the uprights from 37 yards out, which brought the Warriors to within 14-6 late in the first half.

Gale also had a productive day punting, as he averaged 45 yards on five kicks. His longest effort went for 59 yards.

ECCC freshman quarterback Josh Lowery of Sparta, Tenn., had another productive outing as he completed 20 of 36 passes for 177 yards. Letez Fortune of South Leake was the leading receiver with 51 yards on six receptions.

Running back David McCants, a product of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School, led EC rushers with 97 yards on 17 carries. He also had four catches for 28 yards and returned four Hinds' kicks for 109 yards. His longest return went for 48 yards.

Linebacker Paul Tolbert, a former standout at Clinch (Ga.) County High School, led the Warrior defense with seven tackles, three assists and two quarterback sacks.

Defensive back Ivon Hickman of Lake had five solo stops and two assists, and free safety Jarius Neal of Pickens (Ala.) County registered four tackles and one assist.

East Central will try to snap a two-game skid by taking on Jones County Junior College Thursday night. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. on the Ellisville campus. The Bobcats are 2-3 and 2-2 following their 17-14 squeaker over Co-Lin last week.

All Warrior football games can be heard on KICKS 98 (98.3 FM) in Carthage and on the ECCC website, www.eccc.edu, featuring veteran broadcasters Melvin Wooten and Gilbert Barham.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF _____

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC QUARTERBACKS

Quarterbacks on the 2005 East Central Community College football include (from left) Rustin Morse (2), Elijah McDonald (13) of Morton; and DeAngelo Carter (19). Also pictured is quarterbacks coach Mike Molarnich.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF _____

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC KICKERS, PUNTERS

Responsible for kicking and punting duties on the 2005 East Central Community College football team are (from left) Ryan Gale (18) and Grey LaPrade (88), a former standout at Forest High School. Also pictured is head coach Terry Underwood who also coaches kickers and punters.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF _____

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC DEFENSIVE BACKS

Defensive backs on the 2005 East Central Community College football team include (kneeling from left) Marcus Arrington (2), Nick Robinson (6) and Johnathon Thornton (8), both of Morton; Jarius Neal (15) and Jeremy Holmes (24). (standing from left) George Lowe (26), Marieo Harris (35), Cedric Cox (38) of Morton; Gary Lindsey (39), Jermaine Glass (42), and Alan Greer (60). Also pictured is defensive backs coach Chris Boone.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 81/5

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC RUNNING BACKS

Running backs on the 2005 East Central Community College football team and their respective high schools include (kneeling from left) Timmy Barnes (20), Terrance McFadden (5) and Derrick Quails (4) of Forest; and (standing from left) David McCants (25), Dustin Crockett (30), Desmond Graham (32), Lakendrick Coleman (44). Also pictured is running backs coach Terry Evans.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 11/9/15

ECCC FOOTBALL MANAGERS

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES X

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF

ECCC stays perfect on road with 28-14 thumping of Jones Co. JC

After spotting Jones County Junior College an early 7-0 lead, East Central Community College's Warriors roared back with four scores and cruised to a 28-14 South Division victory over the Bobcats Thursday night on the Ellisville campus.

With the win, East Central snaps a two-game skid to improve to 3-3 overall and 2-3 in league play, while Jones drops to 2-4 and 2-3.

The lopsided victory was especially sweet for Warrior head coach Terry Underwood, a former standout lineman at JCJC.

"It was a big win for us in a lot of different ways," Underwood stated. "Beating Jones is always a big deal since they always have a good football program. It was also a meaningful win because of the ties we have to the school. I played at Jones as did Coach Boone (defensive coordinator Chris Boone) and Coach Evans (running backs coach Terry Evans), plus we have several guys on our roster from the Jones area. So defeating Jones really means a lot to our program."

Freshman quarterback Josh Lowery of Sparta, Tenn., shrugged off a shaky start - which included a 35-yard interception return for a touchdown by Bobcat defensive back Tristan Jackson in first quarter action that gave Jones its only lead - and completed 19 of 27 passes for 143 yards and one touchdown in effectively guiding the Warrior offense.

Lowery's touchdown pass came on a seven-yard strike to wide receiver Lenez Fortune of South Leake with 37 seconds left before halftime and knotted the contest at 7-7. A 16-yard pass completion from Lowery to freshman wide receiver Colby Ross of Newton County was among key plays during the 10-play, 58-yard drive.

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

IMPACT

10/31/05

East Central freshman running back David McCants was once again the workhorse for the Warrior offense. McCants rushed for 71 yards on a workmanlike 27 carries and a touchdown to lead East Central to a 28-14 win over Jones County Junior College.

Freshman running back David McCants of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County -who was again the workhorse for East Central with 71 yards on 27 carries and one score - put the Warriors in the lead for good with his 12-yard tally early in the third stanza. The short scoring drive was set up by a Jones fumble at the Bobcat 27-yard-line.

The Warriors added two scores in the final stanza on runs by freshman running back Desmond Graham of Noxapater.

Graham's first tally came on a two-yard burst with 6:20 remaining, capping a 16-play, 78-yard march. Key plays in the drive included Graham's nine-yard run followed by eight- and nine-yard gains by fullback Derrick Qualls of Forest and McCants' seven-yard scamper. The march also included seven-yard passes from Lowery to tight end Anthony Stanford of Louisville and Qualls, the latter of which gave EC first and goal at the one.

Graham's other score came on a 30-yard burst with 3:19 remaining and was set up by the Bobcat's fourth miscue of the evening. Sophomore free safety Jarius Neal of Pickens (Ala.) County picked off back-up quarterback Petey Thigpen- who replaced starter Brett Hyatt- near midfield and EC scored five plays later. Neal made his third pick of the evening on the game's final play. Linebacker Andrew Harrington of Kemper County also recorded an interception.

Other top defenders were linebacker Paul Tolbert of Clinch (Ga.) County and defensive end Greg Hathorn of Lousiville, who each had two quarterback sacks.

The Jones offense - which was held in check most of the evening - went 73 yards in 10 plays during the game's final three minutes with Thigpen finding wide receiver Michael Thigpen on a 21-yard TD strike on fourth and 12 with nine seconds remaining. Michael Swancey added his second PAT.

The Bobcats finished the contest with 151 yards passing and just 76 yards on the ground. Jones had eight first downs.

East Central, which had 15 first downs, had 102 yards rushing and 143 yards passing for a total of 245.

Sophomore punter Ryan Gale of Oak (Ala.) Mountain High School punted eight times for a 38.4-yard average. His longest effort was a 57-yarder which pinned Jones on its own nine-yard-line. Gale, who made all four PATs, missed a 36-yard field goal with 5:48 left before halftime.

The Warriors close out the 2005 campaign by traveling to Southwest Mississippi Community College Thursday, November 2. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. on the Summit campus.

The Bears defeated Co-Lin 36-19 Thursday to improve to 3-3 and 3-2.

WEEK OF _____

Time to Decide

ECCC quarterback Josh Lowery looks downfield as receiver Letez Fortune (7) cuts across the middle during a recent game with Mississippi Gulf Coast. The Warriors close out their season Thursday night at Southwest Mississippi Community College at Summit. *Photo by Marty Stamper.*

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF _____

East Central ends season with

❑ Warriors end season with 3-4 overall record

A 10-point, fourth-quarter lead was not enough to preserve a victory for East Central Community College's Warriors who closed out the 2005 campaign by falling 20-17 to Southwest Mississippi Community College Thursday night in Summit.

With the loss, East Central finished 3-4 overall and 2-4 in South Division action, while the Bears posted 4-3 marks in each category.

The Warriors were in position to claim their first winning season since the 2001 campaign when quarterback Josh Lowery of Sparta, Tenn., fired an 11-yard touchdown strike to tight end Anthony Stanford of Louisville with 13:52 remaining. The PAT by Ryan Gale gave the league's second-best defensive unit a 17-7 advantage.

But Southwest freshman quarterback Fred Jones, a product of South Pike High School, had other ideas as he completed a 78-yard touchdown pass to tight end Edgar Givens of New Madrid with 11:03 left, and connected on a 63-yard bomb to wide receiver Jessie Burton of South Pike for the game-winning score.

Kicker Tucker Hoge of Brandon made the first PAT but was unsuccessful on the second attempt.

The Bears, however, held on for the three-point win, as East Central got no closer than the Southwest 43-yard line in the game's final minutes.

East Central jumped out to a 7-0 advantage on a 73-yard scamper by freshman running back David McCants, a product of Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) High School, with 14:04 left before intermission. Grey LaPrade of Forest hooked the

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

11/7/05

20-17 defeat

PAT.

The lead was short-lived, however, as Southwest linebacker Glover Quinn of North Pike picked off Lowery's pass and race 44 yards to pay dirt with 8:28 remaining before halftime. Hoge added the PAT.

East Central regained the lead at 10-7 when Gale split the uprights from 20 yards out.

The short scoring drive was set up when defensive end Keith Spann of Clinton recovered a Bear fumble and returned it 12 yards to the Southwest 13-yard-line.

The Warriors reached the one-yard-line on a first-down run by McCants, but were unable to further penetrate the Bear defense and settled for the successful field goal attempt on fourth and three.

McCants led the Warriors in rushing with 114 yards on 14 carries and one score.

Lowery completed 22 of 34 pass attempts for 123 yards and one touchdown.

WEEK OF _____

East Central closes with 20-17

from combined reports

Southwest Mississippi Community College scored on a pair of long passes over the final 14 minutes as the Bears rallied from a 10-7 deficit to defeat East Central Community College in the season finale for both teams Thursday at Summit.

"We felt like we were in a good position to win the game," East Central head coach Terry Underwood said. "I knew the game wasn't over. And I don't think my players knew it was over. We just gave up the big plays."

Terry Underwood

With the loss, East Central finished 3-4 overall and 2-4 in the MACJC South Division, while Southwest finished 4-3 overall and 4-2 in the division. It was the Bears' first winning season since 2000.

"The great thing is we're 4-2 in the South Division and have only 15 sophomores," Southwest head coach Dom Green said.

The Warriors were in position to claim their first winning season since the 2001 campaign when quarterback Josh Lowery fired an 11-yard touchdown strike to tight end Anthony Stanford with 13:52 remaining. The extra point by Ryan Gale gave the league's second-best defensive unit a 17-7 advantage.

But Southwest freshman quarterback Fred Jones had other ideas as he completed a 78-yard touchdown pass to tight end Edgar Givens with 11:03 left and connected on a 63-yard bomb to wide receiver Jessie Burton for the game-winning score with 5:01 remaining. The game-winning drive covered 93 yards in seven plays. Kicker Tucker Hoge made the first PAT but was unsuccessful on the second attempt and the Bears held on for the three-point win, as East Central got no closer than the Southwest 43-yard line in the game's final minutes.

East Central jumped out to a 7-0 advantage on a 73-yard scamper by freshman running back David McCants with 14:04 left before intermission. Grey LaPrade booted the PAT.

The lead was short-lived, however, as Southwest linebacker Glover Quinn picked off Lowery's pass and raced 44 yards to pay dirt with 8:28 remaining before halftime. Hoge added the PAT.

East Central regained the lead at 10-7 when Gale split the uprights from 20 yards out with 7:03 left in the third quar-

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11/7/05

loss at Southwest

ter. The short scoring drive was set up when defensive end Keith Spann of Clinton recovered a Bear fumble and returned it 12 yards to the Southwest 13-yard-line. The Warriors reached the 1-yard-line on a first-down run by McCants, but were unable to further penetrate the Bear defense and settled for the successful field goal attempt on fourth-and-three.

McCants led the Warriors in rushing with 114 yards on 14 carries and one score. Lowery completed 22-of-34 pass attempts for 123 yards and one touchdown. Except for McCants, the rest of the Warriors struggled on the ground as three other plays gained just six yards on 16 carries.

The Warriors stifled the Southwest ground game, allowing only 36 yards on 35 carries.

Jones finished the contest with a 16-of-24 passing effort which gained 311 yards. Givens had three receptions for 138 yards, while Burton caught six passes for 113 yards.

Letez Fortune led the East Central receives with five catches for 38 yards. Chris Lark had six receptions for 31 yards. Colby Amis caught a pair of passes for 15 yards.

MACJC
South Division

	Div.	All
Gulf Coast	5-1	6-1
Pearl River	5-1	6-1
Southwest	4-2	4-3
Jones	3-3	3-4
Hinds	2-4	3-4
East Central	2-4	3-4
Co-Lin	0-6	1-6

WEEK OF 11/21/05

Five Warriors receive all-state honors

from combined reports

Five members of the 2005 East Central Community College football team have been selected to the MACJC all-state team. ECCC finished 3-4 this fall.

Greg Hathorn (6-2, 240) of Louisville was selected to the first team as a defensive lineman, while Paul Tolbert (6-1, 220) of Clinch County, Ga., was a first-team choice at linebacker. Jarius Neal (6-3, 215) of Pickens County, Ala., was a first-team selection at defensive back.

Named to the second team were offensive lin man Javares Dobbins (5-10, 290) of Tuscaloo County, Ala., and defensive lineman Geor Maddox (6-1, 265) of Tuscaloosa County.

Quarterback Jimmy Oliver of state champi Pearl River was named the Most Valuat Offensive Back. Steve Campbell of Gulf Co was the Coach of the Year.

Rory Johnson of Hinds was the Defens Back MVP, while Sean Merrill of Gulf Coast v the Defensive Line MVP.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 12/19/05

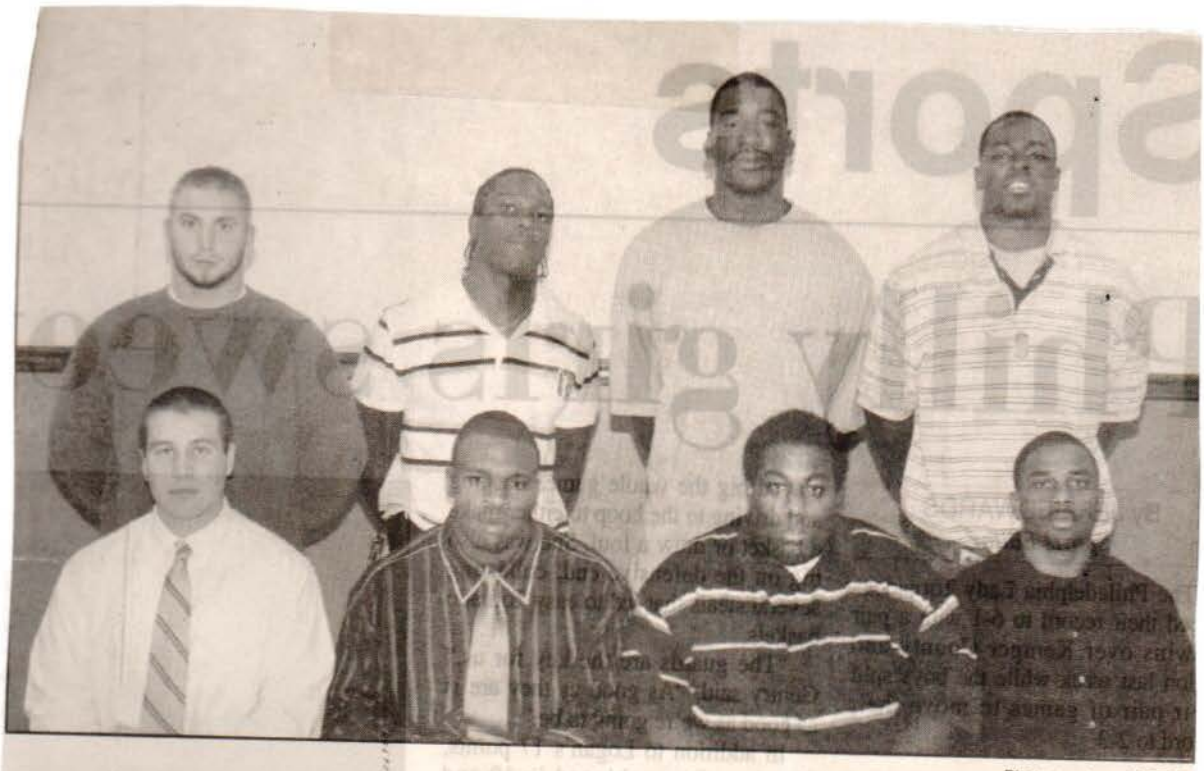

Photo courtesy of ECCC

Football award recepients

These East Central Community College football players received various team honors following the 2005 campaign. Pictured are seated from left, Anthony Stanford of Louisville, academic and Warrior awards; Greg Hathorn of Louisville, most valuable defensive lineman; Nathan Weaver of Columbus, most valuable offensive lineman; and David McCants of Tuscaloosa County, most valuable offensive back; standing, from left, T.J. Rushing of Neshoba Central and Derrick Qualls of Forest, Warrior awards; Jarius Neal of Pickens County, Kemba Bryant Most Valuable Defensive Back and most valuable player; and Paul Tolbert of Clinch County, defensive team captain award.

APPEARED IN:

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17/19/05

ECCC WARRIORS SELECTED HONORABLE MENTION ALL-STATE

These East Central Community College football players received honorable mention All-State honors following the 2005 campaign. Pictured are (seated, from left) Derrick Quails of Forest, Nathan Weaver of Columbus, T.J. Rushing of Neshoba Central, Colby Amis of Newton County and Anthony Stanford of Louisville; and (standing, from left) Keith Spann of Clinton, Andrew Harrington of Kemper County, Kenyon Boatman of Neshoba Central, Kris Thomas of American Heritage (Fla.), David McCants of Tuscaloosa County (Ala.), Tim Stamper of Rome (Ga.), *Ken Gordon of Morton*, Josh Lowery of Sparta, Tenn.; Lenny Boatner of Winston Academy, and Johnathan Pickens and Kerry Hudson, both of Philadelphia. Head coach Terry Underwood presented the awards during the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held recently on the Decatur campus.

WEEK OF 12/19/05

These East Central Community College football players received post-season honors following the 2005 campaign. Pictured are (seated, from left) Javares Dobbins of Tuscaloosa County (Ala.), second team All-State; and Paul Tolbert of Clinch County (Ga.), All-Region 23 and first team All-State; and (standing, from left) George Maddox, second team All-State and All-Star; Jarius Neal of Pickens County (Ala.), All-Region 23, first team All-State and All-Star; and Greg Hathorn of Louisville, All-Region 23, first team All-State and All-Star. Not pictured are Chris Lark of Pickens County (Ala.) and Marcus Arrington of Heidelberg, both named to the All-Star team. Head coach Terry Underwood presented the awards during the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held recently on the Decatur campus. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 12-20-05

JUCO FOOTBALL

ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central's Paul Tolbert, above, drags down a Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College back. Tolbert signed with Baylor and will enroll there in January. Below, safety Jarius Neal is drawing major interest from Ole Miss, Southern Miss and Texas A&M. Below, he returns an interception against Pearl River in the season opener.

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12/26/05

Several East Central players headed to four-year colleges

By Robbie Robertson
The Newton Record

It's a busy time of year for East Central Community College football coach Terry Underwood.

On one hand, Underwood is helping his sophomore players get signed by four-year universities. At the same time, he's recruiting high school players and then he's dealing with transfers who will be starting school in January.

"It's a very busy time right now," Underwood said. "Right now, we are trying to help our sophomores get somewhere. I think in the end, we will have 18 to 20 kids to sign. I think we will have a good crop to sign and I'm always proud of that. I think it's a sign of how hard our staff works to promote our kids. In the last five years, I would say we've sent as many kids to four-year schools as anybody in the state. That's something I'm proud of and something I think kids look at when they decide to come to school here."

Underwood said that linebacker Paul Tolbert signed early with Baylor and should enroll there in January. Three players, Chris Lark, Anthony Stanford and Jonathan Thornton are going to sign with Arkansas-Monti-

See **ECCC**, Page 3B

WEEK OF Feb 28

ECCC Golf Tees Off

FROM STAFF REPORTS

DECATUR—The East Central Community College Golf Team will face opposition in six matches in the 2005 season.

The Warriors will travel to Raymond Friday to play the Eagle Ridge course against Hinds. On Saturday, they will travel to Wesson to play the Wolf Hollow course against Copiah-Lincoln.

The Warriors face Meridian at Northwood course on March 29 and travel to Laurel to face Jones March 30.

The Warriors play the MSU course in Starkville, April 11-12 before wrapping up the season at Corinth April 25-27 at Shiloh Ridge against Northeast.

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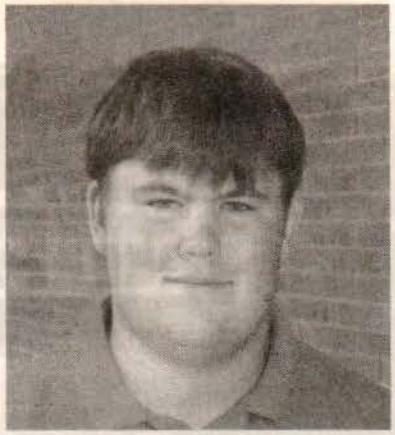
WEEK OF 5-30-05



Ellis Makes All-Region; Qualifies for Nationals

Arick Ellis of Forest, a freshman member of the East Central Community College golf team, was named to the Division III All-Region 23 Team following competition at the MACJC State Championship held April 26-27 at Kirkwood National in Holly Springs.

The Leake Academy product also qualified for the Division III NJCAA Tournament scheduled in early June at the Chautauqua (New York) Golf Club.

Ellis carded a 78 in first-round action and posted a 90 the final day for a 168 total. Sophomore Jon Bergin, also of Forest, shot 169 (81-88) and missed qualifying for Nationals and All-Region by one stroke.

Tim Coats serves as golf team coach.

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WEEK OF 6-13-05

ECCC golfer competes in Division III tournament

East Central Community College golfer Arick Ellis of Forest tied for 61st in the NJCAA Division III Men's Golf Championship, which was held June 6-10 at the Chautauqua Golf Course in Chautauqua, N.Y.

Ellis, a product of Leake Academy, qualified for the national tournament after being named to the Region 23 Division III squad following competition in the Region 23/MACJC State Championship held at Kirkwood National Golf Club in Holly Springs in late April.

At Chautauqua, Ellis opened with an 83 and got better each round. His second round was an 80, followed by a 78 and a 77 for a 72-hole total of 318.

Brent Davis of Montgomery College took first place with an even-par 288. Davis shot 72-72-73-71.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

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WEEK OF Jan. 10

ECCC teams off to rough start in new year

■ Lady Warriors start new year with win over Itawamba, both teams lose to Co-Lin.

Special to The Record

South Division competition began on a disappointing note for the East Central Community College women and men's basketball teams who were swept by visiting Copiah-Lincoln Community College Monday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

The Lady Warriors – the defending division, MACJC and Region 23 champions– were outscored 66-61 and the Warriors were edged 76-73.

Kristin Chaney, a sophomore product of Newton County High School, led the 24th-ranked Lady Warriors with 17 points. Also scoring for EC, which fell to 8-4 and 0-1, were Kim Cox of Lake, 13; Tierra Young of South Leake, 11; India Backstrom of Neshoba Central, eight; Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale, six; Sara Judice of Teurlings Catholic High School in Lafayette, La., four; and LaShaundra Harrison of Union, two.

Co-Lin held a 35-30 advantage at the break.

Co-Lin (M) 76, ECCC 73

In men's action, sophomore Andrew Lewis' three-point attempt to tie the contest in the game's final seconds bounced off the rim and the Warrior rally fell short as Co-Lin came away with the narrow victory.

Lewis, a former standout at Morton High School, had 18 points to lead the Warriors, who slipped to 3-9 and 0-1.

Garrick Nichols also chipped in 11 points while Newton County's Ricardo Alcanter ahd nine points.

Ledell Eackles of Baton Rouge pumped in 25 points to lead Co-Lin, which improved to 7-5 and 1-0.

Co-Lin led 35-25 at halftime.

East Central teams travel to Gulf Coast Thursday night and will again be on the road Monday night for a matchup with Jones County. The Jones County

ECCC

From Page 1B

contest as well as the remaining Monday night games can be heard on KICKS 98 (98.3 FM) with veteran broadcaster Melvin Wooten calling the action.

ECCC (W) 71, Itawamba 56

Shannon Lloyd and Tierra Young each pumped in 18 points to lead the East Central Community College women to a thumping of Itawamba Community College Thursday night on the Fulton campus.

The Lady Warriors, ranked 24th in the latest NJCAA poll, improved to 8-3 following its first win in 2005 while the Lady Indians slipped to 8-3.

Kristin Chaney also contributed 12 points in the winning effort while Kotreece Bender had six points.

The Lady Warriors held a 36-25 advantage at the break.

Itawamba (M) 75, ECCC 70

In men's action, East Central fell to the host Indians.

The Warriors, who dropped to 3-8, were led by Morton product Andrew Lewis and Andre Coleman of Louisville who had 13 points apiece.

Garrick Nichols of Thomastown and Jacquas Jones of Forest each chipped in 10 points.

Itawamba, which improved to 9-3, held a slim 41-40 advantage at halftime.

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WEEK OF Jan 17

ECCC teams endure rough week of hoops

Both the men's and women's basketball teams at East Central Community College had tough weeks as they both went 0-2.

The Lady Warriors lost 66-61 to Copiah-Lincoln and 71-66 to Gulf Coast. The Warriors fell 76-73 to Co-Lin and 84-79 to Gulf Coast.

EC will host Hinds Thursday with the women's game at 6 p.m. and the men's set for 8 p.m.

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WEEK OF Jan 17

ECCC Warriors upset Jones for first division win

Sophomore Andrew Lewis of Morton pumped in 21 points and led ECCC to a 90-80 thumping of Jones County Junior College Monday night in Ellisville. With the win, the Warriors earned their first South Division victory after sustaining two narrow losses - a three-point decision (76-73) to Co-Lin followed by a five-point setback (84-79) to Gulf Coast. The Warriors are 4-10 overall.

In addition to Lewis, other Warrior scorers were Ricardo Alcantar, 14; Pierre Barlow of Scott Central, 12; Andre Coleman, 11; Ryan Hudson, seven; Garrick Nichols of Thomastown and Ryan Rodgers, six each; Justin Harris of, five; Jerry Luckett , four; Terrance McNichols, three; and Tawon Walker, one.

Jason Watson had 16 points to lead the Bobcats, who fell to 8-5. Jones held a slim 42-41 advantage at halftime.

In women's action, the Lady Warriors suffered their third-straight division loss in falling to 87-70 to the highly regarded Lady Bobcats.

Sophomore Kristin Chaney, had 24 points to lead East Central, which slipped to 8-6 overall and 0-3 in league play. Other point makers were Kotreece Bender, 12; Shannon Lloyd, 11; Tierra Young of , nine; Kim Cox of Lake, eight; India Backstrom, four; and LaSaundra Harrison , two.

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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WEEK OF Jan 24

ECCC splits with Hinds

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
Staff Reporter

East Central Community College split a pair of basketball games with the Hinds Community College Bulldogs of Utica last Thursday night.

The Lady Warriors took an 87-47 win over Hinds. Meanwhile, the Bulldogs proved too much for the Warriors as they went home with a 90-76 victory.

Both East Central teams will be back in action with two games this week. ECCC was to host Southwest on Monday and then visit Meridian Community College on Thursday.

ECCC women 84
Hinds 47

The East Central women led 46-26 at the half as they upped their record to 9-6 on the season.

It was more of the same for the Lady Warriors in the second half as they scored 38 points while holding Hinds to 19

Tierra Young scored 14 points to lead East Central.

Hinds 90
ECCC men 76

Hinds led all the way. The Bulldogs went up 31-19 with 6:38 left in the first half and led 39-30 at the half.

The Bulldogs held a 10-plus point lead for most of the second half as East Central was unable to seriously challenge the visitors.

"They shot the lights out," said ECCC coach Bill Smith, whose team dropped to 4-11 on the year. "I thought if we could have cut it to five points at one point, we could have come back. But that didn't happen.

Andrew Lewis and Tawon Walker each scored 16 points to lead the Warriors.

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
UNION APPEAL _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
IMPACT _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓
NEWTON RECORD _____
MERIDIAN STAR ✓
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WEEK OF Jan 24

ECCC Lady Warriors, Warriors Defeat MCC Squads

DECATUR--East Central Community College's Lady Warriors won their third-straight division contest in grand style Thursday night as they upset home standing Meridian Community College 85-67 and handed the Lady Eagles their first loss in league competition. The Warriors were also victorious over the MCC men, as they held on for a 90-87 victory. Shannon Lloyd, a product of West Lauderdale High School, pumped in 20 points had 13 rebounds to lead the Lady Warriors who improved to 11-6 overall and 3-3 in league play. Also scoring were Tierra Young of South Leake, 14; Kim Cox of Lake, 12; Kotreece Bender of Newton, 11; Kristin Chaney of Newton County and India Backstrom of Neshoba Central, nine each; Sara Judice, a product of Teurlings Catholic High School in Lafayette, La., eight; and LaSaundra Harrison of Union, two. J.J. Huggins had 16 to lead MCC, which fell to 13-4 and 5-1. East Central led 38-37 at halftime. Ryan Hudson of Louisville had 13 points to lead the Warriors who improved to 5-12 and 2-4. Other point makers were Garrick Nichols of Thomastown and Terrance McNichols of Gautier, 11 each; Chavlon Ellis of South Leake, 10; Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County, nine; Andrew Lewis of Morton, eight; Andre Coleman of Louisville, seven; Tawon Walker of Neshoba Central, six; Pierre Barlow of Scott Central and Coshune Bingham of Newton, five each; Jacquas Jones of Forest, three; and Ryan Rodgers, a product of Tri Cities High School in Atlanta, Ga., two. Jordan Payne had 24 points to lead MCC, which fell to 3-14 and 0-6. The Warriors held a 43-38 advantage at the break. In games scheduled this week, ECCC teams host Pearl River Community College on Monday, January 31 and travel to Copiah-Lincoln Community College Thursday, February 3. The Lady Warriors and Warriors entertain Gulf Coast on Monday, February 7. Monday night contests can be heard on KICKS 98 (98.3 FM) featuring veteran broadcaster Melvin Wooten.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ✓

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

Jan 24

East Central men let

By Marty Stamper
staff writer

DECATUR — With 1-3 MACJC South Division records coming into Monday's men's contest, both East Central Community College and Southwest Mississippi Community College were in effect battling for their respective seasons.

As has often been the case this season, the homestanding Warriors had their chances, but let them slip away as the Bears headed back to Summit with a 56-55 victory.

"We had a shot," said ECCC head coach Bill Smith. "We just missed a couple of shots at the end that could have fell just as easy as they got missed.

"Again, I thought the guys played hard. We needed to get this one at home. We just didn't get it done in the clutch."

The Warriors used an 11-0 run late in the first half to turn a 20-point tie into a 31-20 lead.

Southwest returned the favor, scoring the last four points of the half and the first eight after intermission to take a 32-31 lead with a 12-0 run.

"They switched from man-to-man to zone right after we did and they caught us just as off-guard with it as we thought we had them when

> *Again, I thought the guys played hard. We needed to get this one at home. We just didn't get it done in the clutch.*
>
> **East Central men's coach Bill Smith**

we went on the 11-0 run," Smith said. "They just hit some big shots there at the end and got a couple of offensive rebounds that were the difference."

Neither team led by more than five points over the final 17:20.

After a basket by Southwest's Kevin Ricard gave the Bears a 56-53 lead with 3:45 to play, neither team scored again until ECCC's Tawon Walker connected with 1:49 showing. Walker was unable to complete the three-point play, however.

Southwest missed several opportunities to clinch the win. Torry Crumedy missed as the 35-second shot clock was going off, but Nicholas Stallings claimed the rebound for the Bears with just over a minute left.

Crumedy misfired again with the Warriors

Jan 24

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By Marty Stamper
staff writer

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Crumedy misfired again with the Warriors

WEEK OF Jan 24

another one slip away

getting the rebound this time. However, Walker missed a trey with 27 seconds left.

Southwest's Devin Jones missed the front end of a one-and-one with 25.4 seconds left, but Stallings picked off a Warrior pass just beyond midcourt.

Crumedy missed two free throws with 17.6 seconds remaining to give the Warriors their final shot at the win.

Ricardo Alcantar missed in the lane and Ryan Hudson was unable to connect on the putback attempt.

Walker led ECCC (4-12, 1-4) with 13 points. Andrew Lewis had 11, Hudson nine and Coshune Bingham and Terrance McNichols both had six.

The Warriors led 31-24 at halftime.

Southwest (8-5, 2-3) got 16 points from Jones, 15 from Crumedy and 12 from Stallings.

ECCC (women)	**77**
Southwest	**58**

The Lady Warriors kept their postseason hopes alive with a solid second-half effort. ECCC improved to 10-6 overall and 2-3 in the South Division.

Clinging to a 34-32 lead, Tierra Young scored all six of her points to ignite a 13-2 ECCC run that put the Lady Warriors up 47-34 with 14:16 to play.

"That's just her," said ECCC head coach Brad Hodge of the freshman guard. "If she gets that first one, she can get on a roll pretty good. That was a big difference in the ballgame. That's just her skill level, and we try to take advantage of it when she starts getting her feeling."

A 9-0 ECCC run extended the Lady Warriors' lead to 65-42 with 6:34 remaining.

Ten Lady Warriors scored, with eight having from six to 11 points. India Backstrom had 11, Kristin Chaney and Shannon Lloyd both had 10, Kim Cox and Sara Judice both had nine, Kotreece Bender eight, Aja Loveless seven and Young and Heather Steele both had six.

"With this team, that's what we've got to try to get," Hodge said of the scoring balance. "We can't be a one-woman show. We're starting to get more contributions consistently on the offensive end. We're pleased with that for 20 minutes."

Cox also had six rebounds and six assists, while Chaney had six steals and five assists. Bender had eight rebounds, Lloyd had five and Backstrom had four.

Southwest (2-11, 0-5) got 14 points from Michelle Cochran, 12 from Yolanda Grady and 10 from Charity Barnes.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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WEEK OF Jan 24

EC teams both turn in 1-1 weeks

Both East Central Community College basketball teams went 1-1 last week. The Warriors won at Jones, while the Lady Warriors won at home against Hinds.

combined reports

EC travels to Meridian on Thursday, then hosts Pearl River on Monday.

• **Jones women 87, EC 70:** The Lady Warriors suffered their third-straight division loss in falling to the highly-regarded Lady Bobcats.

Sophomore Kristin Chaney of Newton County High School, had 24 points to lead EC, which slipped to 8-6 overall and 0-3 in league play.

Other EC point makers were Kotreece Bender with 12, Shannon Lloyd with 11, Tierra Young with nine, and Kim Cox with eight.

Brittany Reese and Jasmine McClendon had 15 points each to lead Jones, 11-4.

The Lady Bobcats led 34-32 at the break.

• **EC men 90, Jones 80:** Sophomore Andrew Lewis of Morton pumped in 21 points to lead the Warriors to the Jan. 17 win at Ellisville.

With the win, the Warriors earned their first South Division victory after sustaining two narrow losses — 76-73 to Copiah-Lincoln and 84-79 Gulf Coast. EC improved to 4-10 overall.

Continued on page 7A...
See ECCC...

In addition to Lewis, other Warrior scorers were Ricardo Alcantar with 14 points, Pierre Barlow with 12, Andre Coleman with 11, Ryan Hudson with seven, Garrick Nichols and Ryan Rodgers with six each, and Justin Harris with five.

Jason Watson had 16 points to lead Jones, 8-5. The Bobcats held a slim 42-41 advantage at halftime.

• **EC women 84, Hinds 47:** A three-game losing skid came to an end for the Lady Warriors, who cruised to a 37-point win Thursday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

The Lady Warriors improved to 9-6 overall and 1-3 in the South Division. Hinds fell to 3-11 and 0-4.

Tierra Young of South Leake led EC in scoring with 14 points. Shannon Lloyd, Kristin Chaney, and Aja Loveless each had eight; LaSaundra Harrison, Kim Cox, and Kotreece Bender each had seven; and Sara Judice and India Backstrom both had six.

LaShawnda Pryor led Hinds with 11 points.

EC held a 46-28 advantage at halftime.

• **Hinds men 90, EC 76:** Hinds improved to 4-0 in the division and 9-5 overall with Thursday's win at Decatur. EC fell to 1-3 and 4-11.

Warrior point makers were Andrew Lewis and Tawon Walker with 16 each, Ryan Hudson with nine, Garrick Nichols with eight, Pierre Barlow with seven; Ryan Rodgers with six, and Ricardo Alcantar with five.

Kiki Christmas pumped in 26 points to lead Hinds.

The Bulldogs led 39-30 at the break.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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IMPACT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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WEEK OF Jan 31

ECCC sweeps pair at Meridian

combined reports

The East Central Community College basketball teams took a pair of MACJC South Division wins at Meridian Community College Thursday night. The Lady Warriors also beat Southwest Mississippi earlier in the week.

The Lady Warriors improved to 11-6 overall and 3-3 in the division. The EC men are 5-12 and 2-4.

• **EC women 77, Southwest 58:** The Lady Warriors cruised past Southwest on Jan. 24 at Decatur.

India Backstrom had 11 points to lead the Lady Warriors, who improved to 10-6 overall and 2-3 in division action. Other point makers were Shannon Lloyd and Kristin Chaney with 10 each, Kim Cox and Sara Judice with nine each, Kotreece Bender with eight, Aja Loveless with seven, and Heather Steele and Tierra Young with six each.

EC held a slim 32-30 advantage at halftime.

Michelle Cochran had 14 points to lead Southwest (2-11, 0-5).

Continued on page 9A...
See ECCC...

ECCC...

Continued from 8A...

• **Southwest men 56, EC 55:** The Warriors dropped another close contest after Ryan Hudson's potential game-winning tip in would not fall as time was expiring and Southwest held on for the one-point victory.

EC dropped to 4-12 and 1-4. Tawon Walker was the leading scorer for EC as he pumped in 13 points. Also scoring were Andrew Lewis with 11, Hudson with nine, Terrance McNichols and Coshune Bingham with six each, and Ricardo Alcantar with five.

Devin Jones had 16 points for the Bears, who improved to 8-5 and 2-3.

EC led 31-24 at the break.

• **EC women 85, Meridian 67:** Shannon Lloyd scored 20 points and had 13 rebounds as EC handed MCC its first division loss Thursday at Meridian.

EC improved to 11-6 overall and 3-3 in league play. Also scoring were Tierra Young with 14 points, Kim Cox with 12, Kotreece Bender with 11, Kristin Chaney and India Backstrom with nine each, and Sara Judice with eight.

J.J. Huggins had 16 to lead MCC, which fell to 13-4 and 5-1.

EC led 38-37 at halftime.

• **EC men 90, Meridian 87:** Ryan Hudson had 13 points to lead the Warriors who improved to 5-12 and 2-4.

Other point makers were Garrick Nichols and Terrance McNichols with 11 each, Chavlon Ellis with 10, Ricardo Alcantar with nine, Andrew Lewis with eight, Andre Coleman with seven, Tawon Walker with six, and Pierre Barlow and Coshune Bingham with five each.

Jordan Payne had 24 points to lead MCC, which fell to 3-14 and 0-6.

The Warriors held a 43-38 advantage at the break.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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IMPACT _____

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WEEK OF Feb 7

ECCC women keep division win streak alive

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors picked up their fourth and fifth straight South Division wins last week as they defeated Pearl River and Co-Lin.

ECCC defeated Pearl River at home last Monday night, 64-51, and then took a close 61-55 victory at Co-Lin.

Those victories helped put the Lady Warriors back in the chase for the State Tournament which only takes the top four teams from each division. ECCC, the defending state and Region 23 champion, dropped its first three division games but now stands at 5-3 in the South and 13-6 overall.

Gulf Coast, which leads the division with 6-1 record, was to visit EMCC Monday night. Co-Lin, which was the second place team, now has three losses following the ECCC game.

Things didn't go as well for the ECCC men as they lost to PRCC 90-71, and Co-Lin 79-70.

ECCC women 64
Pearl River 51

Kim Cox of Lake was the leading scorer for EC against Pearl River, as she pumped in 14 points. Also scoring were Kotreece Bender of Newton with 12, Kristin Chaney of Newton County with 11, and Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale and India Backstrom of Neshoba Central with both scoring nine.

Carmen Labat had 17 points to lead the Lady Wildcats, who fell to 9-9 and 2-5.

East Central held a 39-23 advantage at the break.

ECCC women 61
Co-Lin 55

The Lady Warriors led 33-25 at the half and held on for the victory.

Shannon Lloyd scored 15 points to lead ECCC while Kristen Chaney added 12 and Tierra Young scored 10.

Pearl River 90
ECCC men 71

Pearl River jumped out to a 37-26 halftime lead and held on for the victory.

Terrance McNichols of Gautier and Tawon Walker of Neshoba Central both scored 15 points to lead the Warriors while Andre Coleman of Louisville added 12. Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County added 10.

Alton Robinson of Hattiesburg pumped in 36 points to lead Pearl River, which improved to 10-8 and 4-3.

Co-Lin 79
ECCC men 70

The Warriors led 33-32 at the half, only to see the Wolves rally and take the victory in the second half.

Ryan Hudson led the Warriors with 15 points, while Tawon Walker and Garrick Nichols each scored 11 points. The ECCC men fall to 5-15 overall and 2-6 in the South Division.

The ECCC teams have two home games this week as they were to host Gulf Coast on Monday night and Jones County Junior College on Thursday.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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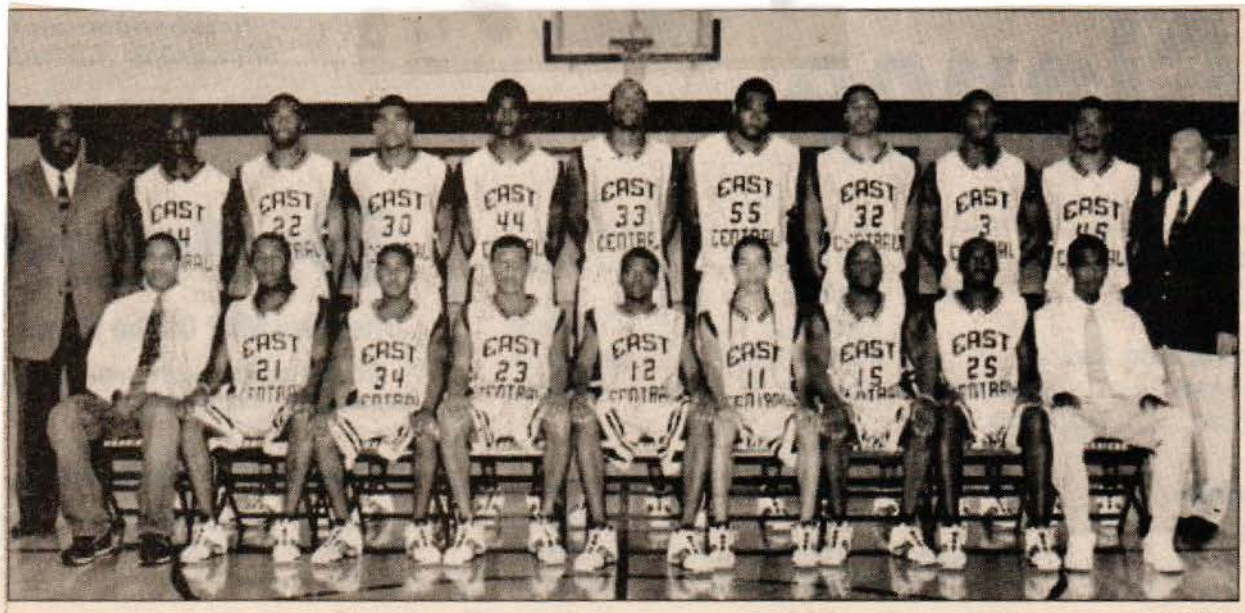
WEEK OF Feb 14



ECCC PHOTO

ECCC Warrior Basketball Team

The East Central Community College Warrior basketball team members and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) student assistant Handel Hughes of Forest, freshman guard Jerry Luckett of South Leake, sophomore guards Andrew Lewis of Morton and Garrick Nichols of Thomastown, freshman guards Pierre Barlow of Scott Central and Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County, sophomore guard Tawon Walker of Neshoba Central, freshman guard Terrance McNichols of Gautier and student assistant Chase Slaughter of Newton County; and (back row, from left) assistant coach Kevin McGhee, freshman guard Andre Coleman of Louisville, freshman forward Jacquas Jones of Forest, freshman forwards Chavion Ellis of South Leake and Justin Harris of Southside (Atlanta, Ga.), sophomore center Ryan Hudson of Louisville, freshman center Derrick Harris of Los Angeles, California; freshman forward Coshune Bingham of Newton, sophomore forward Ryan Rodgers of Tri Cities (Atlanta, Ga.), freshman guard Anthony Simonds of Noxubee County and head coach Billy Smith.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF Feb 14

East Central splits with Gulf

from school reports

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors went 1-1 in last week's basketball action. They entered this week with a 14-7 overall record and a 6-4 MACJC South Division mark.

The EC men lost to both Gulf Coast and Jones as they dropped to 5-16 overall and 2-8 in the division.

• **EC women 65, Gulf Coast 55:** After trailing 28-20 at halftime, the Lady Warriors went on a 24-4 run and pounded South Division leader Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College on Feb. 7 at Decatur.

With the win, the EC women improved to 14-6 overall and 6-3 in division play and moved a step closer to qualifying for postseason play and defending their state and Region 23 titles.

Gulf Coast slipped to 16-4 and 7-2.

Kristin Chaney led EC with 18 points. Other point makers were Tierra Young with 15, India Backstrom with 11, Kotreece Bender nine, Sara Judice six, and Shannon Lloyd five.

Veronica Palmer pumped in 16 points to lead Gulf Coast.

• **Gulf Coast men 99, EC 95 (OT):** The Warriors were unable to maintain their 45-36 halftime advantage as they fell in overtime to the visiting Bulldogs.

Ryan Hudson and Andrew Lewis each had 15 points for the Warriors, who slipped to 5-15 overall and 2-7 in division play. Also scoring were Ricardo Alcantar and Tawon Walker

Coast, drops two to Jones

with 11 each, Garrick Nichols and Andre Coleman with nine each, and Jacques Jones and Terrance McNichols with eight each.

A.J. Magee scored 34 points to lead Gulf Coast, which improved to 15-5 and 7-2.

The game was tied 86-86 at the end of regulation.

• **Jones women 71, EC 63:** The EC women saw their six-game win streak come to an end Thursday night at Decatur.

Kotreece Bender and Shannon Lloyd had 14 points each to lead EC which fell to 14-7 overall and 6-4 in South Division action. Also scoring were Kim Cox with 12, Kristin Chaney eight, India Backstrom seven, and Sara Judice five.

Brittany Baham had 28 points to lead the Lady Bobcats who improved to 16-6 and 8-2. Jones had previously beaten the Lady Warriors by 17 points at Ellisville.

Jones led 33-27 at halftime.

• **Jones men 94, EC 72:** Tawon Walker and Coshune Bingham each had 11 points to lead the Warriors, whose record fell to 5-16 and 2-8 with Thursday's homecourt loss.

Other scorers were Andrew Lewis with 10, Garrick Nichols with seven, Ricardo Alcantar and Chavlon with six each, and Ryan Hudson and Terrance McNichols with four each.

Dwight Tolbert pumped in 18 points to lead the Bobcats who improved to 11-9 and 4-6.

EC trailed 40-32 at the break.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF March 7

ECCC PHOTO

WARRIORS HONORED WITH LETTER JACKETS

Sophomore members of the East Central Community College Warrior basketball team received special recognition and were presented letter jackets during the group's last home game on Feb. 21 against Meridian Community College. Pictured are (from left) student assistant Perry Truss, Ryan Hudson, Garrick Nichols, Andrew Lewis of Morton, Ryan Rogers and head coach Billy Smith.

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WEEK OF April 11

EAST CENTRAL SIGNS 6: East Central Community College announced six men's basketball signees, including four from Jackson. They are 6-6 center **Sam Walton** of Lanier; 6-0 guard **Earnesto Green**, 6-5 forward **Bryan Johnson** and 6-4 forward **Odell Carter**, all of Provine; 6-4 forward **Johnny Hodge** of Monroe (La.) Ouachita; and 6-3 forward **Lee Trebotich** of Vancleave. Walton and Johnson were All-Metro selections as seniors.

APPEARED IN:

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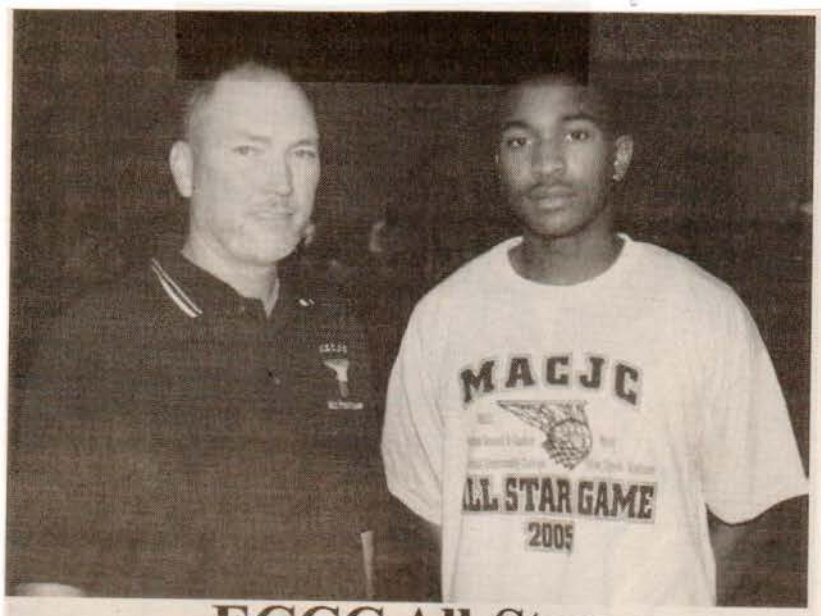
WEEK OF April 18



ECCC All-Star

East Central Community College standout basketball player Andrew Lewis (right) of Morton represented the Warriors in the MACJC All-Star Basketball Games held Saturday, April 16 at Choctaw Central High School in Choctaw. Lewis, shown with Warrior head coach Billy Smith, scored two points in the annual matchup, which was won 129-99 by the North squad. East Central serves as host of the All-Star basketball games. Other sponsors are the Pearl River Resort, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Pepsi and Mississippi Sports Medicine. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 5-23-05

ECCC Warrior Basketball Award Winners

These members of the East Central Community College men's basketball team received honors at the 2005 Spring Sports Awards Banquet held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County, hustle award; Andre Coleman of Louisville, Warrior Award; and Jacquas Jones of Forest, most improved. Standing from left are Andrew Lewis of Morton, best offensive player; Ryan Hudson of Louisville, best rebounder; and Coshune Bingham of Newton, Newcomer of the Year. The awards were presented by Warrior head coach Billy Smith. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON X

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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WEEK OF 9-12-05

Hampton tabbed to take over Warriors' basketball program

By Robby Byrd
assistant sports editor

DECATUR — Experience, record and involvement held precedent in the search for a new men's basketball coach at East Central Community College.

ECCC's President Dr. Phil Sutphin announced on Tuesday that the school's board of trustee's approved the hiring of Steve Hampton, a 14-year veteran in the world of Mississippi basketball.

Hampton

"We had six good quality applicants," said Sutphin in a phone interview on Tuesday. "He stood out among the other applicants. We felt he was the best to take the program where it needs to go."

Hampton will split time between his new job at ECCC and his former positions as the head boys' basketball coach and assistant principal at Quitman High School, where he has been since 1996, for the next two weeks to help during the transitional period.

"It is hard to leave Quitman," said Hampton, whose overall coaching record is 215 wins and 185 losses. "They've been so good to me there — that is my home. I will stay in Quitman in the mornings and come over here (ECCC) at about lunch time everyday."

Hampton will take over the ECCC program that finished last season with a .500 record.

"I think we have good athletes," Hampton said. "Right now I'm just trying to get to know the players. I'm not familiar with any of them or their abilities."

The Warriors will officially begin practice on Oct. 1, but Hampton will use the days until then to find out as much about his team as he can, which should not be difficult with the

Hampton

From Page 2C

former 'head' coach' on campus.

Hampton takes the reigns of the men's program in the footsteps of Billy Smith, who took over the women's basketball team following the departure of Brad Hodge.

"It will be a tremendous help," Hampton said about having Smith on campus. "I will lean on him a lot in the beginning. He is a tremendous asset for information about the players."

Hampton will join the assistant coach Brandon Cornelius, who was hired in August. Hampton said Cornelius has done a good job with the team in the absence of a head coach.

During his 14-year coaching tenure, Hampton's teams have won four district championships and he was named The Meridian Star All-South Area Coach of the Year in 1998.

Before starting his career at Quitman High, Hampton served as head coach for the New Hope High School boys' basketball team and as a graduate assistant for the Delta State University men's basketball team.

"This is very exciting for me," Hampton said. "It is something I've always wanted to do, and I look forward to the challenge."

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES X

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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WEEK OF Sept 19, 2005

Hampton named EC men's basketball coach

from school reports

Steve Hampton is the new men's basketball coach at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin last week.

Hampton, whose selection was approved at the September Board of Trustees meeting, has served as head boys' basketball coach at Quitman High School since 1995. He has also been the school's assistant principal for the past six years.

The new EC head mentor is also a former head boys' basketball coach at New Hope and served as a graduate assistant men's basketball coach at Delta State University in Cleveland.

Steve Hampton

In all, Hampton has 14 years experience as a basketball coach, 11 of which he served as head coach. His overall record is 215 wins and 185 losses. His teams have won four district basketball championships and he was named The Meridian Star's All-South Area Coach of the Year in 1998.

In addition to his coaching and administrative responsibilities, Hampton is a former president and board member of the Mississippi Association of Coaches. He has also coached the Mississippi-Alabama All-Star team, serving as head coach in 2004 and assistant in 2003. In addition, he served as basketball commissioner for the State Games of Mississippi from 1998-2000.

Hampton holds a master's degree in school administration from DSU, and has a bachelor's degree in physical education from Mississippi State University. He also earned an associate's degree at Meridian Community College and is a graduate of Meridian High School.

Hampton succeeds Billy Smith, who was selected EC women's head basketball coach following the departure of Brad Hodge, who took over the women's basketball program at Birmingham (Ala.) Southern College.

Hampton is married to the former Pam Green of Sebastopol. They have a nine-year-old daughter, Hannah.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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UNION APPEAL X

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NEWTON RECORD _____

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CLARION-LEDGER X

WEEK OF

East Central Warriors hope experience pays off

By RYAN SATCHER
Staff Reporter

The East Central Community College men will use depth and experience this basketball season to compete in the strong South Division.

The Warriors return six sophomores and have three transfers joining the squad this year.

"We have a lot of depth and we are pretty athletic," said East Central coach Steve Hampton. "I think we have a chance to do some things."

According to Hampton, the team has good experience at guard this season.

Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County returns at guard along with Peirre Barlow of Scott Central and Andre Coleman of Louisville.

Sophomore Terrance McNichols also returns to play guard for the Warriors this season.

East Central also has a pair of sophomores returning on the inside this year.

"We've got some experience at point guard," said Hampton.

Forest's Jacquas Jones and former Newton High standout Coshune Bingham give the Warriors experience on the inside.

Joining East Central this season will be several transfers that should help give the Warriors even more experience.

Team members include, seated from left are guards Mike Presendieu, Ricardo Alcantar, Pierre Barlow, Andre Coleman, Caleb Pearson and Earnesto Green, forwards Jacquas Jones, Johnny Hodge and Terrance McNichols; and guard Kyshawn Young; standing from left are assistant coach Brandon Cornelius; student assistant Chase Slaughter, forwards Rodney Turner, Coshune Bingham, Brian Johnson, Odell Carter, Paul Milligan and Sam Walton, student assistant Curtez Weathers and head coach Steve Hampton.

Paul Milligan is a 6-foot-6 forward that should help the squad. Johnny Hodge will play wing for the Warriors and joins the team from Tyler Texas.

Several freshmen should also help the squad this season.

"I'm expecting good things from our freshmen," said Hampton. "All of them played well against Holmes."

Brian Johnson and Sam Walton will play in the post for the Warriors this year and Ernesto Green should also see playing time for East Central in his first year with the team.

The Warriors opened up the season on the road last week with a victory over Holmes Community College.

"We did a good job," said Hampton. "It's tough in the South division and that was a big game for us."

The Warriors will try to use their depth to their advantage in a fast-paced game.

"We like to run," said Hampton. "It will benefit us because of our depth. We want to put pressure on people with our defense. We are going to try to get transition buckets with our depth and quickness."

According to Hampton, he likes his team's chances if they can avoid injuries.

"I think we can compete," Hampton said. "If we say healthy and eligible I think we stand a good chance of being right in the middle of things at the end of the year. We have a chance to be really good. We are working hard and I expect a lot."

The Warriors will try to prepare for tough south division play against Pearl River, Gulf Coast and Hinds will tough early tests against Bevill State and north division foes.

"Playing north division teams will get us prepared for after Christmas," said Hampton.

ECCC men out of gate with fast start

From special reports

First-year head coach Steve Hampton and his East Central Community College men's basketball team improved to 2-0 on the young season following a 67-63 overtime victory over East Mississippi Community College Saturday afternoon in the Bracken-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

The Lady Warriors — led by first-year head mentor Billy Smith — posted their first win of the young season by outscoring the East Mississippi women 59-45.

Freshmen Earnesto Green of Jackson Provine and Sam Walton of Jackson Lanier were top scorers for the EC men as they each tallied 11 points.

Other point makers were Rodney Turner of Forest Hill with 10 points; Brian Johnson of Jackson Provine with eight; Paul Milligan of Chillicothe HS in Vernon, Texas with seven; Johnny Hodge of Quachita Parish in Monroe, La., five; Coshune Bingham of Newton, five; Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County, four; and Pierre Barlow of Scott Central, Andre Coleman of Louisville and Odell Carter of Jackson Provine, two each.

East Mississippi led 31-30 at halftime and the score was deadlocked at 57-57 at the end of regulation.

See **ECCC**, Page 4B

ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central's Ricardo Alcanter drives past an East Mississippi defender during Saturday afternoon's victory in Decatur.

ECCC-Holmes split

Johnny Hodge's driving lay-up at the buzzer lifted East Central to a 90-88 win over Holmes Community College in the season-opener for both squads.

Hodge pumped in 21 points to lead EC in scoring and had seven rebounds. Also scoring were Walton, 14; Alcantar, 12; Milligan and

In games scheduled this week, East Central squads traveled to Bevill State in Jasper, Ala., on Monday, and will host Northeast Mississippi Community College on Thursday.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors entertain Holmes Community College on Monday, Nov. 15.

Tip-off times are 6 p.m. for the women's contest, with men's action scheduled to follow at 8 p.m.

After trailing 27-25 at the break, the Lady Warriors outscored East Mississippi by a 34-18 margin to claim the easy victory.

Sophomore LaSaundra Harrison of Union was the leading scorer for East Central, as she pumped in 14 points.

Also scoring were Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale, 10; Andrea Dubose of Newton County, with nine; Sara Judice of Teurlings Catholic HS in Lafayette, La., eight; Jessica Anderson of Newton, six; Valerie Harris of Lake and Elyse Clay of Scott Central, four each; and Heather Steele of Nanih Waiya and Amanda Schmidt of Carthage, two each.

Johnson, 11 ea
seven; Turner,
three; and Green
of Forest and T
chols of Gautier
ton led EC in
eight.

Holmes led 42-

In women's ac
tral fell 79-67 to
Bulldogs.

Dubose led EC
followed by Ha
who each tallied
scoring were
Lloyd, seven; St
four each; Ros
Newton, three;
of Jackson Pro
Massey of East
two each; and
Anderson, one e

East Central
break

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ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central's Sam Walton looks to blow past a Holmes defender.

Warriors top Holmes to remain unbeaten

From special reports

The East Central Community College men improved to 5-0 Monday night following the Warriors' 78-65 decision over Holmes Community College in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

Sam Walton, a freshman forward and former standout at Lanier High School in Jackson, was the leading scorer for East Central, which is off to its best start in recent memory under first-year head coach Steve Hampton.

Earnesto Green of Provine added 12 points for ECCC.

Richard Griffin of Jackson had 19 points to lead the Bulldogs, who fell to 2-3.

East Central, which led 38-26 at halftime, recorded its second victory over Holmes this season. The Warriors clipped the Bulldogs 90-88 in the season-opener on Hodge's game-winning layup at the buzzer.

In women's action, East Central could not maintain its slim lead at halftime as the Lady Bulldogs rallied for a 60-55 victory.

The Lady Warriors, who fell to 2-3 under first-year head coach Billy Smith, were led by West Lauderdale's Shannon Lloyd with 13 points.

Angie Bounds of Pearl River,

See **ECCC**, Page 4B

WEEK OF ____

11/4/05

La., tallied 17 points to lead Holmes, which improved to 4-0.

EC squads travel to East Mississippi in Scooba Thursday night in hopes for a season sweep of their longtime rivals. The Lady Warriors cruised to a 59-45 victory and the Warriors held on for a 67-63 decision in games played Nov. 5 in Decatur. The Lady Warriors and Warriors host Mississippi Delta Saturday night and travel to Itawamba Monday.

ECCC (Men) 75, Northeast 68

Sophomore guard Ricardo Alcantar's clutch free-throws in the game's final moments helped send the Warriors past Northeast last Thursday. Alcantar, a product of Newton County High School, made all four of his attempts at the free-throw line. Alcantar also shared top-scoring honors with Green as both players pumped in 12 points.

Northeast 72, ECCC (W) 65

In women's action, East Central fell by nine to the visiting Lady Tigers.

Andrea Dubose, a freshman product of Newton County High School, had 15 points to lead the Lady Warriors. LaSaundra Harrison of Union tallied 12 points and Jessica Anderson of Newton scored eight.

Jessica Hooker of Brownsville, Tenn., tallied 19 points to lead Northeast, which improved to 3-0. Northeast led 40-34 at the break.

ECCC sweeps Bevill State

The Warriors and Lady Warriors recorded victories over Bevill State Community College Nov. 7 on the Jasper, Ala., campus. The ECCC men — behind Walton's 16 points — cruised to an 87-67 victory, while the ECCC women won a 68-55 decision.

ECCC off to good start

Sophomore guard Ricardo Alcantar's clutch free-throws in the game's final moments helped send the East Central Community College men's basketball team to its fourth-straight victory – a 75-68 decision over Northeast Mississippi Community College Thursday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

Alcantar, a product of Newton County High School, made all four of his attempts at the free-throw line as the Warriors improved to 4-0 under first-year head coach Steve Hampton.

Alcantar also shared top-scoring honors with freshman Earnesto Green of Jackson Provine as both players pumped in 12 points.

Other scorers for EC were Rodney Turner of Forest Hill and Sam Walton of Jackson Lanier, 10 each; Paul Milligan of Chillicothe HS in Vernon, TX, nine; Terrance McNichols of Lanier, six; Pierre Barlow of Scott Central and Brian Johnson of Jackson Provine, four each; Johnny Hodge of Quachita Parish in Monroe, La., and Odell Carter of Jackson Provine, three each; and Jacquas Jones of Forest, two.

Derrick Carpenter had 22 points to lead Northeast, which fell to 2-2.

East Central held a 40-32 advantage at the break.

In women's action, East Central fell 72-62 to the visiting Lady Tigers.

Andrea Dubose, a sophomore product of Newton County High School, had 15 points to lead the Lady Warriors, who dropped to 2-2 under first-year head coach Billy Smith.

Also scoring for EC were LaSaundra Harrison of Union and Sara Judice of Teurlings Catholic HS in Lafayette, La., 12 each; Jessica Anderson of Newton, eight; Dominetrix Hunter of Philadelphia and Amanda Schmidt of Carthage, four each; Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale, three; Constance Hayes of Jackson Provine and Elyse Clay of Scott Central, two each; and Heather Steele of Nanih Waiya, one.

Jessica Hooker of Brownsville, Tenn., tallied 19 points to lead Northeast, which improved to 3-0.

Northeast led 40-34 at the break.

ECCC SQUADS SWEEP BEVILL STATE

The Warriors and Lady Warriors recorded victories over Bevill State Community College November 7 on the Jasper, Ala., campus.

The ECCC men- behind Walton's 16 points – cruised to an 87-67 victory, and Judice pumped in 18 points in leading the ECCC women to a 68-55 decision.

Other Warrior point makers were Barlow, 12; Johnson, 10; Hodge, nine; Coshune Bingham of Newton, eight; Green, six; Jones, five; Alcantar and Turner, four each; Andre Coleman of Louisville, Caleb Pearson of Richland and McNichols, three each; and Cater and Mike Presendieu, a product of New Dimensions HS in Orlando, Fla., two each.

EC led 40-27 at halftime.

Other Lady Warrior scorers were Lloyd, 13; Harrison, 12; Dubose, nine; Valerie Harris of Lake and Anderson, four each; Schmidt, three; Steele and Rosalind Jones of Newton, two each; and Tamika Triplett of Sebastopol, one.

UPCOMING GAMES

Next up for the Warriors and Lady Warriors is a rematch with Holmes Community College scheduled Monday, November 14 in the Brackeen-Wood gym. The Warriors slipped past the Bulldogs 90-88 while the Lady Warriors were outscored 79-67 in the season-opener for both schools.

EC squads travel to East Mississippi Community College on Thursday, November 17 for a rematch with the Lady Lions and Lions. The EC women were victorious 59-45 and the Warriors posted a 67-63 win.

The Warriors and Lady Warriors will also be on the road during the week-long fall break/Thanksgiving holidays as they take on Itawamba Community College on Monday, November 21.

EC squads close out 2005 competition by traveling to Mississippi Delta Community College on Monday, December 5 and Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville on Thursday, Dec.8.

WEEK OF _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

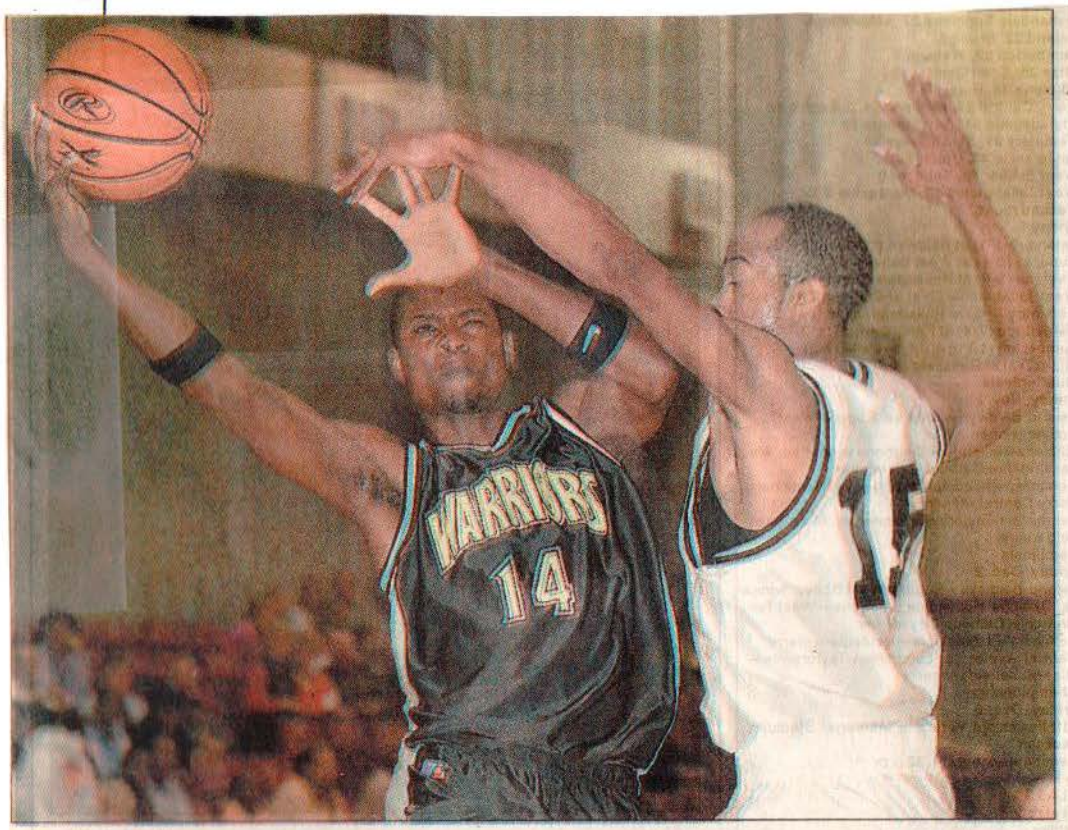

PHOTO BY KYLE CARTER / THE MERIDIAN STAR

FOULED

East Central Community College's Andre Coleman (14) goes up for a shot and is fouled by East Mississippi's Lee Nelson during the second half of their game on Thursday night.

Warriors take two from EMCC on hardwood

By Marty Stamper
staff writer

SCOOBA — East Central Community Col lege took a pair of non-division basketball wins over host East Mississippi Community College Thursday night at the Keyes T. Currie Coliseum.

In the women's game, the Lady Warriors evened their record at 3-3 with a 57-51 win.

In the men's contest, the Warriors upped their record to 6-0 with an 82-70 victory.

ECCC men	**82**
EMCC	**70**

The Warriors took a 36-30 lead into half time and extended their lead to 55-41 on a dunk by Sam Walton with 11:53 to play.

The Lions roared back, closing the deficit to 57-53 on a pair of free throws by Derrick Westbrook with 7:03 remaining.

Brian Johnson halted the Lions' comeback bid with a 3-pointer from the top of the key with 6:49 to go.

The Warriors sealed the win with 3:50 showing when they were awarded a basket on goaltending and the Lions were whistled fo technical foul for slapping the backboa Ricardo Alcantar made both free throws fo 68-58 ECCC lead.

Walton led the Warriors with 18 poi Earnesto Green, Johnny Hedge and Rod Turner each had 12. Alcantar finished w eight, Johnson had seven and Cosh Bingham six.

"I'm happy with 6-0, but we're not play very good," ECCC head coach Steve Hamp said. "We're not finishing games like should. We're making too many cr turnovers. We don't execute in the half-co like we should.

"We've got a lot of improvement to do. the positive thing about it is we're 6-0. never going to be satisfied, but I think can do a whole lot better than we're do Our defensive intensity tonight was po didn't think we got after it like we sh have. To play in the South Division, w going to have to get a whole lot better."

EMCC, 2-4, got 15 points from Corne

See **Warriors**
Page B4

WEEK OF 11/14/05

ECCC Warriors improve to 5-0

Roundup of games

East Central Community College improved to 5-0 Monday night following the Warriors' 78-65 decision over Holmes Community College in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

Sam Walton, a freshman forward and former standout at Lanier High School in Jackson, was the leading scorer for East Central, which is off to its best start in recent memory under first-year head coach Steve Hampton.

Other point makers were Ernesto Green of Provine, 12; Johnny Hodge of Quachita Parish HS in Monroe, La., nine; Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County and Odell Carter of Provine, eight each; Andre Coleman of Louisville and Rodney Turner of Forest Hill, six each; Pierre Barlow of Scott Central, four; Coshune Bingham of Newton, three; and Brian Johnson of Provine, two.

Richard Griffin of Jackson had 19 points to lead the Bulldogs, who fell to 2-3.

East Central, which led 38-26 at halftime, recorded its second victory over Holmes this season. The Warriors clipped the Bulldogs 90-88 in the season-opener on Hodge's game-winning lay-up at the buzzer.

In women's action, East Central could not maintain its slim lead at halftime as the Lady Bulldogs rallied for a 60-55 victory.

The Lady Warriors, who fell to 2-3 under first-year head coach Billy Smith, were led by West Lauderdale's Shannon Lloyd with 13 points.

Also scoring were Andrea Dubose of Newton County, 10; LaSaundra Harrison of Union and Sara Judice, a product of Teurlings Catholic HS in Lafayette, La., eight each; Amanda Schmidt of Carthage, four; Dominetrix Hunter of Philadelphia and Elyse Clay of Scott Central, three each; and Tatnika Triplett of Sebastopol, Valerie Harris of Lake and Jessica Anderson of Newton, two each.

Angie Brands of Pearl River, La., tallied 17 points to lead Holmes, which improved to 4-0 and posted its second victory over the Lady Warriors on the young campaign. The Lady Bulldogs outscored East Central 79-67 in the season opener.

The Lady Warriors cruised to a 58-45 victory and the Warriors held on for a 67-63 decision in games played November 5 in Decatur.

Alcantar's clutch free-throws gain win

Sophomore guard Ricardo Alcantar's clutch free-throws in the game's final moments helped send the East Central Community College men's basketball team to its fourth-straight victory – a 75-68 decision over Northeast Mississippi Community College Thursday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

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Alcantar also shared top-scoring honors with freshman Earnesto Green of Jackson Provine as both players pumped in 12 points.

Other scorers for EC were Rodney Turner of Forest Hill and Sam Walton of Jackson Lanier, 10 each; Paul Milligan of Chillocothe HS in Vernon, TX, nine; Terrance McNichols of Gautier, six; Pierre Barlow of Scott Central and Brian Johnson of Jackson Provine, four each; Johnny Hodge of Quachita Parish in Monroe, La., and Odell Carter of Jackson Provine, three each; and Jacquas Jones of Forest, two.

Derrick Carpenter had 22 points to lead Northeast, which fell to 2-2.

East Central held a 40-32 advantage at the break.

In women's action, East Central fell 72-63 to the visiting Lady Tigers.

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Also scoring for EC were LaSaundra Harrison of Union and Sara Judice of Teurlings Catholic HS in Lafayette, La., 12 each; Jessica Anderson of Newton, eight; Dominetrix Hunter of Philadelphia and Amanda Schmidt of Carthage, four each; Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale, three; Constance Hayes of Jackson Provine and Elyse Clay of Scott Central, two each; and Heather Steele of Nanih Waiya, one.

Jessica Hooker of Brownsville, Tenn., tallied 19 points to lead Northeast, which improved to 3-0.

Northeast led 40-34 at the break.

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WEEK OF 11/21/05

Centralized

EC teams sweep EMCC

East Central Community College's Warriors improved to 6-0 following an 82-70 victory and season sweep over longtime rival East Mississippi Community College, and the Lady Warriors held on for a 57-51 win over the Lady Lions in non-division action held Thursday night at Keyes T. Currie Coliseum on the Scooba campus.

Freshman Sam Walton, a 6-6 forward and former standout at Lanier High School in Jackson, had 18 points to lead the unbeaten Warriors under first-year head coach Stevè Hampton.

Also scoring were Earnesto Green of Jackson Provine, Rodney Turner of Forest Hill and Johnny Hodge, a product of Quachita Parish HS in Monroe, La., 12 each;

Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County, eight; Brian Johnson of Provine, seven; Coshune Bingham of Newton, six; Jacquas Jones of Forest, three; and Andre Coleman of Louisville and Paul Milligan of Chillicothe HS in Vernon, TX, two each.

Cornelius Miles of Meridian had 20 points to lead EMCC, which fell to 3-3.

The Warriors held a 36-27 advantage at the break.

East Central defeated the Lions 67-63 in early season action on the Decatur campus.

Sophomore Sara Judice of Teurlings Catholic HS in Lafayette, La., pumped in 14 points to lead the East Central women who snapped a two-game skid to improve to 3-3 under first-year head mentor Billy Smith.

Other point makers were Andrea Dubose of Newton County, 13; LaSaundra Harrison of Union, nine; Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale, eight; Dominetrix Hunter of Philadelphia and Jessica Anderson of Newton, four each; Valerie Harris of Lake and Elyse Clay of Scott Central, two each; and Tamika Triplett of Sebastopol, one.

Jennifer Jones of Starkville had 16 points to lead East Mississippi, which fell to 3-4.

East Central led 34-23 at halftime.

The Lady Warriors also swept their season series with the Lady Lions, having earlier posted a 59-45 decision.

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NEWTON RECORD

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

East Central men remain unbeaten, now 8-0 on season

From Staff Reports

East Central Community College's Warriors improved to 6-0 following an 82-70 victory and season sweep over long-time rival East Mississippi Community College, and the Lady Warriors held on for a 57-51 win over the Lady Lions in non-division action held Thursday night at Keyes T. Currie Coliseum on the Scooba campus.

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Cornelius Miles of Meridian had 20 points to lead EMCC, which fell to 3-3.

The Warriors held a 36-27 advantage at the break.

ECCC (W) 57, EMCC 51

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Jennifer Jones of Starkville had 16 points to lead East Mississippi, which fell to 3-4.

East Central led 34-23 at halftime.

The Lady Warriors also swept their season series with the Lady Lions, having earlier posted a 59-45 decision.

ECCC (M) 68, Itawamaba 60

The East Central men improved to 8-0 on the season and handed Itawamba their first loss with an eight-point victory.

East Central led 34-31 at the half.

Johnny Hodge led East Central with 18 points while Earnesto Green and Bryan Johnson each had 10 points apiece.

Itawamba, 5-1, was led by Titus Penro and Jason Elzie with 12 points apiece.

ECCC (W) 63, Itawamba 52

Shannon Lloyd scored 20 points as the West Lauderdale product helped the Lady Warriors to an 11-point victory.

East Central used a strong second half to take the win after trailing 29-28 at the half.

LaSaundra Harrison was second in scoring with 14 points while Andrea Dubose chipped in12 points.

ECCC Classic next week

■ High school basketball teams from throughout east central Mississippi will b competing in the annual East Central Classic, which tips off Monday, Nov. 28 and continues through Saturday, Dec. 3 East Central Community College in Decatur.

Girls and boys teams from South Leal West Lauderdale, Newton, Neshoba Ce tral, Forest, Scott Central, Lake, Enterprise, Northeast Lauderdale, Newton County, Union, Morton and Southeast Lauderdale are participating in the doub elimination event.

Competition will be held at the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building and the South Campus gym.

Finals are scheduled at 7 p.m. (girls) and 8:30 p.m. (boys) Saturday, Dec. 3, i Brackeen-Wood.

Admission is $5 for adults and $3 for children 12 and under.

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IMPACT

WEEK OF 12-12-05

ECCC Squads Fall to Northeast Tigers

Warriors Close 2005 Part Of Season At 8-2 Mark Heading Into Holiday Break

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

BOONEVILLE—East Central Community College's Warrior and Lady Warrior basketball teams ended 2005 competition on a disappointing note by falling to Northeast Mississippi Community College squads Thursday.

The ECCC men were outscored 80-60 and the women were hammered 91-56 by the nationally ranked Lady Tigers.

Freshman forward Sam Walton, a product of Jackson Lanier, had 11 points to lead East Central, which dropped to 8-2.

Other scorers were Brian Johnson of Jackson Provine, nine; Earnesto Green, also of Provine, seven; Andre Coleman of Louisville, Coshune Bingham of Newton and Paul Milligan of Chillicothe in Vernon, Tex., six each; Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County, Rodney Turner of Forest Hill and Johnny Hodge of Quachita Parish in Monroe, La., four each; and Mike Presendieu of New Dimensions in Orlando, Fla., three.

The Scott County delegation on the team failed to sink shots on this matchup.

Northeast, which improved to 7-3, led 41-30 at halftime.

East Central defeated the Tigers 75-68 in early season action.

Lady Warriors Take Loss

The Lady Warriors of East Central did not fare as well either in their match with the Lady Tigers of Northeast.

LaSaundra Harrison of Union pumped in 17 points to lead the Lady Warriors, whose record slipped to 6-4.

Other scorers were Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale, nine; Sara Judice of Teurlings Catholic in Lafayette, La., six; *Valerie Harris of Lake*, Dominetrix Hunter of Philadelphia, Andrea Dubose of Newton County and *Elysa Clay of Scott Central*, four each.

Also scoring were Heather Steele of Nanih Waiya, Emily Massey of East Rankin Academy and Jessica Anderson of Newton, two each; and *Tamika Triplett of Sebastopol* and Constance Hayes of Jackson Provine, one each.

The Lady Tigers, ranked 19th in the latest NJCAA poll, led 37-26 at the break and improved to 7-1 following the nondivision matchup.

Northeast earlier defeated the Lady Warriors 72-63 in Decatur.

EC squads return to action following the Christmas holidays by hosting Itawamba Community College on Thursday, Jan. 5.

Tip-off times are 6 p.m. (women) and 8 p.m. (men).

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES X

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Jan 17

ECCC PHOTO

Joy Cavenaugh is the most recent addition to the new women's soccer team recently established at East Central Community College in Decatur. Cavenaugh, a 5-9 keeper and former standout at Newton County High School, is shown signing a national letter of intent as her parents Rick and Linda Cavenaugh, and ECCC soccer coach Kenneth Thompson look on. While a member of the Lady Cougar soccer team, Cavenaugh was named to the All-State and All-District teams and received a defensive player award. She was also a member of the slow-pitch and fast-pitch softball squads. Cavenaugh is also a freshman pitcher on the ECCC fast-pitch softball team.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Feb 28

ECCC PHOTO

SOCCER WARRIORS

Members of the 2004 East Central Community College soccer team from Scott County are (from left) forward/keeper Jose Castillo of Morton, and midfielder Luis Araya and forward Diego Perez, both of Forest.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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WEEK OF April 18

ECCC Announces Soccer Team Signees

Members of the recently organized women's soccer team and additions to the men's soccer squad for 2005 at East Central Community College in Decatur have been announced by head coach Kenneth Thompson.

Lady Warrior signees include Maggie McDill and Joy Cavenaugh, both products of Newton County High School; Samantha Giambrone, Celeste Burt, Briana Stinson and Jerica Williamson, all of Neshoba Central; Heather Lewis and Danyell Taylor, both of East Central; Brittany Harper, Southeast Lauderdale; Alisia Perry, Morton; and Jaimee Jones, Nanih Waiya.

Also expected to join the Lady Warriors are LaKeisha Neely of George County, Chelsea Brown of Stone County, and Sarah Williamson and Ashley Tolbert, both of Neshoba Central. Warrior signees include Alex Deason of Philadelphia; Jared Wabel and David Harmond, both of Stone County; P. J. Harvey, Laurel; Reid Whittington, Blakney Brown and Zachary Bullock, all of East Central; Vance Taylor, Quitman; Kale Gardner, Wayne County; Nick Shanks, Philadelphia; and Daniel Marshall, Newton County.

Also expected to join the Soccer Warriors are Richard Mann, Florence; Pablo Gomez, St. Stanislaus (originally from Madrid, Spain); Ivan Garcia, Scott Central; and Jason Murphy, Brandon.

Returning Warriors are Taylor Nichols and Micah Lanier, both of Newton County; Zach Joiner, Carthage; Jason Lopez, Forest; Daniel Warren, Clarkdale; Kyle Vowell, Austin Herrington and Zach Kilpatrick, all of Neshoba Central; and Mitch Myers, McLaurin.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 16, 2005

ECCC adds soccer signees

East Central Community College soccer coach Kenneth Thompson has announced the signing of two soccer players from south Mississippi high schools.

Joining the first Lady Warrior soccer team is Chelsea Brown of Perkinston, a former standout at Stone High School. The most recent addition to the Warrior soccer program is Pablo Gomez, who had a stellar career at St. Stanislaus. Gomez is a native of Madrid, Spain.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 6-13-05

Bankston joins ECCC soccer team for 2005

Neshoba Central High School soccer standout Randy Bankston is the most recent addition to the 2005 soccer squad at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Bankston, a 5-foot-7, 165-pound forward, scored four goals and had six assists for the Rockets last year.

He was a four-year member of the Neshoba Central soccer team and also played football and baseball.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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WEEK OF 6/27/05

Eaves signs with ECCC soccer squad

Amanda Eaves, a former soccer standout at Newton County High School, is the most recent member of the new women's soccer team at East Central Community College, announced ECCC soccer coach Kenneth Thompson.

Eaves, a 5-foot-4 defender, is a former recipient of the Cougar Award and helped lead Newton County to a district title in 2001. She missed the 2004-05 season due to a knee injury.

East Central begins women's soccer competition in the 2005 fall semester.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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UNION APPEAL ✓

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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WEEK OF 08-17-05

ECCC Soccer Warriors, 1st Lady

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—Kenneth Thompson is accustomed to starting new soccer programs.

He began the first team at Newton County High School, the first men's squad at East Central Community College and now the first women's team at ECCC.

Thompson, who begins his seventh season at East Central, said he is "excited" about starting another new soccer program.

"It's always exciting to build a new program from the ground up. You have to be ready to go through some growing pains but it is worth it. I look forward to the challenge of building a competitive women's team," Thompson stated.

The College's first women's team and the Warrior squad begin the 2005 season by traveling to Itawamba Community College for exhibition matches scheduled Saturday, August 20 on the Fulton campus. Women's action gets underway at noon followed by the men's match-up at 2 p.m.

Season competition begins Friday, August 26 against East Mississippi Community College on the Decatur campus, with game times scheduled again at noon and 2 p.m.

Although Thompson does not know what to expect when the Lady Soccer Warriors take the field, he feels confident they will be a "very competitive" group and a smart one as well.

"The women's team should be competitive but depth may pose a problem as this first squad is small. We are still looking to add some players before the season starts. This should be one of the smartest teams around as most of the players finished either first or second in their class.

Thompson

"They are an enthusiastic group and I look forward to working with them," Thompson said.

Members of the College's first-ever women's soccer team include Maggie McDill and Joy Cavenaugh, both products of Newton County High School; Samantha Giambrone, Celeste Burt and Jerica Williamson, all of Neshoba Central; Heather Lewis and Danyell Taylor, both of East Central High School; Brittany Harper of Southeast Lauderdale; Alisia Perry of Morton; Jamie Jones of Nanih Waiya; and Chelsea Brown of Stone High School.

Thompson predicted the men's team will be "really competitive," and should improve on last year's 5-10-1 record.

"We return a good nucleus of sophomore players and the freshman class is also blessed with lots of talent.

"This team should be strong in most positions across the field, particularly at the goalkeeper position and at forward and center.

"We should also have plenty of depth on the bench that will keep us competitive throughout the season."

One of the top returnees include midfielder Taylor Nichols of Newton County, who "provides great team leadership." Nichols scored a goal last season from his midfield position.

Other key players from 2004 include wing player Micah Lanier, also of Newton County, who scored once and had an assist; wing player Jason Lopez of Forest, one goal, two assists; forward Trey Whitehead of Southeast Lauderdale, two goals, one assist; forward Kyle Vowell of Neshoba Central, three goals; midfielder Austin Herrington of Neshoba Central and wing player Zach Joiner of Carthage.

"These players helped East Central win the first ever Tom Shepard Sportsmanship Award in 2004 and we are looking to win the award again in 2005," Thompson said.

Top freshmen squad members include goalkeeper Pablo

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES X

UNION APPEAL X

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON X

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junior year; and
Whittington and
and sweeper Zach
of East Central
Hurley Thompson said the three
East Central graduates "are
strong players who should con-
tribute immediately." They
helped lead East Central to the
playoffs last season.

Other top freshmen include
David Harmond at goal keeper
Jared Wabel, both of Stone High
in Wiggins. Harmond was named
to All-South State squad and

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WEEK OF 8-22-05

Lady Warriors

From Page B3

Brittney Harper of Southeast Lauderdale.

Making the step up from high school to junior college could prove challenging.

"It's a big difference between high school and college," said Cavenaugh, a forward/keeper who played on ECCC's fast-pitch softball team last spring. "In college, everybody knows what they're doing. You've got to be able to step up and play."

"I played seventh grade through 12th in high school and it was a great time, so I'm looking forward to college," said McDill, a forward/midfielder. "Coach Thompson has told us a little bit about the junior college teams. He's expecting us to do pretty well."

Thompson expects this year's team to set the standard for other Lady Warrior teams to live up to.

"Now that we have our initial team here, we're going to try to stretch out state wide," Thompson said. "A lot of these girls are from down south and they're already trying to bring in some more girls because they like it here and are looking to bring some of their friends here.

"It's always exciting to build a new program from the ground up," Thompson added. "You have to be ready to go through some growing pains, but it is worth it. I look forward to the challenge of building a competitive women's team."

ECCC trio not new at being new

By Marty Stamper
staff writer

DECATUR — Joy Cavenaugh, Maggie McDill and Kenneth Thompson have been a part of first-year soccer programs before.

Cavenaugh was an eighth grader and McDill a seventh grader when Newton County High School began its girls' soccer program. It was Thompson that started soccer at NCHS.

Now the trio are part of East Central Community College's first women's soccer team.

Thompson currently has only a dozen players on this year's roster. He's hoping more help is on the way, but is ready to face the challenge with the girls already in the fold if he has to.

The small numbers should be expected as only Newton County and Neshoba Central play girls' soccer in ECCC's five-county district. MACJC members are allowed only one out-of-stater and the women's program has not filled that slot. Four of the eight team members are from out-of-district or there would be no team this year.

"Most all of them are going to have to go the whole game," Thompson said. "We're still trying to add a couple girls from down south. They're trying to get all their financial aid worked out. They're just going to have to be 90-minute Warriors."

Completing the roster are keeper Samantha Giambrone, forward/midfielder Celeste Burt, and midfielder Jerica Williamson, all of Neshoba Central; defender Amanda Eaves of Newton County, defender [illegible] and midfielder Heather Lewis,

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WEEK OF Sept. 9-15

ECCC Resumes Soccer Season Sept. 20 at MCC

Soccer season resumes Tuesday, September 20 for the East Central Community College women's and men's teams following the cancellation or postponement of several matches due to Hurricane Katrina.

Coach Kenneth Thompson said practice has also resumed for team members who were called to duty as members of the Mississippi National Guard.

"Jason Lopez (Forest) and Wesley Haggard (Neshoba Central) were involved in the relief effort but are now back in school and practicing with the team, although Jason is still on active duty at nights in Forest. They both spent time on the Coast with the food and water relief efforts," Thompson said.

The Lady Warriors, who are 1-0 in their first season of competition, and the Warriors (0-1-1) travel to Meridian Community College for matches scheduled on the MCC campus. The women battle at 5 p.m. with the men's contest set for 7 p.m.

Remaining matches in September include home contests with Jones County Junior College at 2 and 4 p.m. Monday, September 26 and with Mississippi Delta Community College at 1 and 3 p.m. on Friday, September 30. The Warriors and Lady Warriors travel to East Mississippi Community College on Wednesday, September 28 for matches scheduled at 1 and 3 p.m. on the Scooba campus.

Thompson said matches scheduled with Mississippi Delta Community College on August 31, Itawamba Community College on September 2 and Holmes Community College on September 7 have been cancelled. Contests scheduled in September with Copiah-Lincoln, Jones and Pearl River will be held in October.

The revised October schedule has East Central playing home matches with Pearl River at 1 and 3 p.m. on Wednesday, October 12; Meridian Community College at 9 and 11 a.m. on Saturday, October 15; Gulf Coast at 1 and 3 p.m. Tuesday, October 18; and Co-Lin at 2 and 4 p.m. Thursday, October 20.

Road contests are scheduled with Co-Lin at 1 and 3 p.m. on Tuesday, October 4; Jones County at 1 and 3 p.m. on Friday, October 7; Pearl River at 2 and 4 p.m. Monday, October 10; and Gulf Coast at 1 and 3 p.m. Tuesday, October 18.

For more information contact Coach Kenneth Thompson, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 370. The email address is kthompson@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF Sept 19-25

MCC

From Page C1

Howard wasted little time in giving the Lady Eagles the lead. The sophomore striker scored on a breakaway in the game's fourth minute, after taking a pass from midfield from Megan Morie.

Howard struck again at the 9-minute mark receiving a pass inside the goal box from Sally Kerstetter and depositing the ball into the left corner of the net for a 2-0 lead.

Morie tallied a goal in the match's 43rd minute, after stealing a ECCC clearing attempt and scoring into the right corner of the net. MCC took the 3-0 lead into halftime.

In the second half, Kortney Harris tallied a goal from the right wing when her crossing pass bounced into the net in the 50th minute, and Morie tallied her second goal of the match when her shot bounced off a defender and into the net at the 58-minute mark for a 5-0 lead.

Howard tallied her third goal for a hat trick in the 69th minute, scoring off a rebound, and Harris netted her second goal at the 76-minute mark.

"It was like we have had preseason all over again, and we have worked a lot on passing drills and working as a team," Howard said. "We have really pulled together and are working well together."

In the men's match, MCC shook off a sluggish start to tally all three of its goals in a nine-minute span.

MCC's Chad Brunson opened the scoring by stealing a clearing attempt, storming into ECCC's goal box and ripping a shot into the left side of the net in the match's 19th minute.

The Eagles' Deran Wilson tallied the second goal at the 24-minute mark scoring off a crossing pass from Alejandro Alvarado, and Alvarado capped the scoring with a goal in the match's 28th minute scoring off an assist from Brunson.

"We found our rhythm, got in sync and made good runs," George said. "I think they pulled it through. It was a good solid win tonight."

MCC continues the season on the road against Jones Junior College. The women's match starts at 1 p.m., and the men's match will follow. ECCC continues the season with home matches against Gulf Coast Community College on Saturday. The women's match starts at 11 a.m., and the men's match will follow.

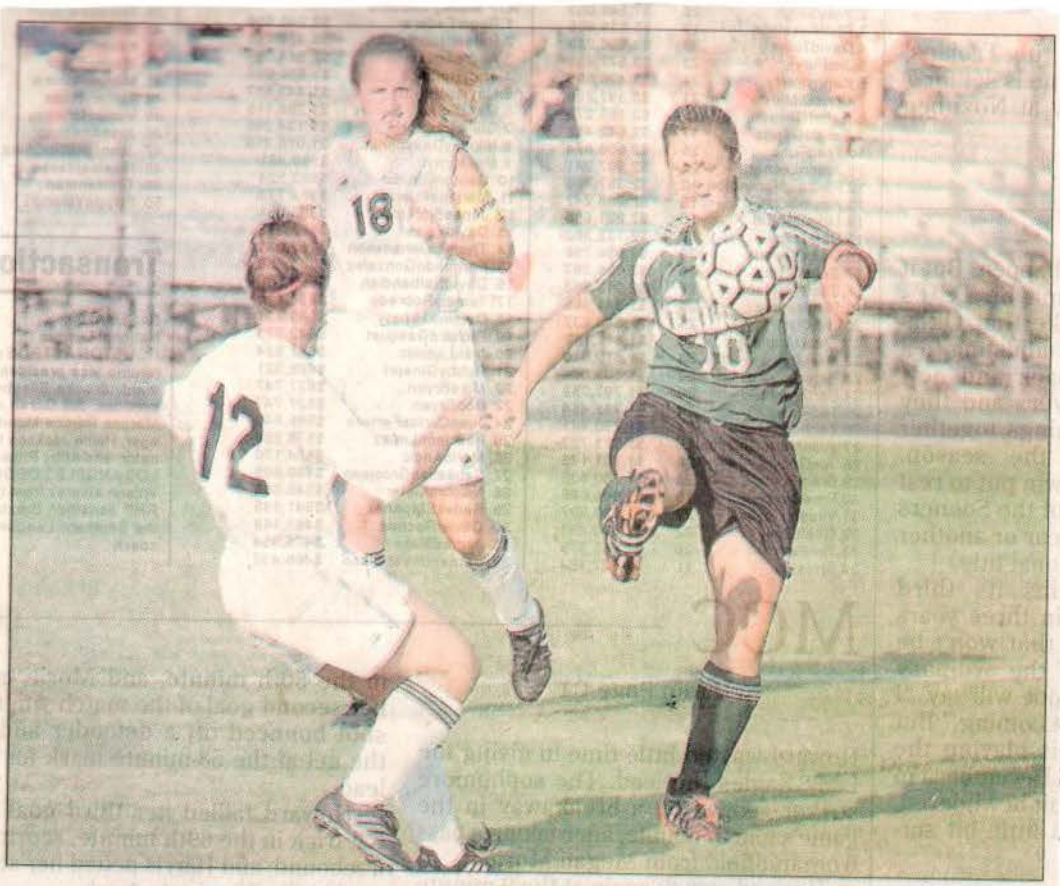

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

BATTLE FOR THE BALL

Meridian Community College's Sally Kerstetter, right, battles for control as East Central's Kristina Moore (12) and Joy Cavenaugh (18) comes in too defend.

"It is almost like it was the first game of the season," said ECCC soccer coach Kenneth

an important division game, but you do what you have to do."

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WEEK OF Sept 0

Eagles snag a pair from East Central

By Tony Krausz
sports editor

What's so tough about it?

Meridian Community College's soccer teams picked up wins in the second part of back-to-back division matches on consecutive days on Tuesday. MCC's soccer teams restarted the 2005 season with road contests on Monday.

The Lady Eagles (3-0, 2-0 South Division) defeated the East Central Community College Lady Warriors 7-0 at MCC, and the Eagles (3-0 2-0 South) topped the East Central Community College Warriors 3-0. The women's team defeated Copiah-Lincoln Community College 6-0 on Monday, and the men's squad scored a 5-0 victory over Co-Lin.

"Every thing counts now," said MCC soccer coach Alex George. "It is asking a lot of your kids to play two conference games in a row, but under the circumstances, it is what we have to do. I'm very proud of our kids for responding well."

ECCC's teams were playing for the first time since Hurricane Katrina swept through the state and halted the junior college soccer season until Monday.

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Lions, Lady Lions split pair of games with East Central

By Robby Byrd
assistant sports editor

SCOOBA — East Mississippi Community College and East Central Community College split the men's and women's soccer matches on Wednesday with the Lions taking the men's 1-0 and the Lady Warrior's claiming a 2-1 victory in Scooba.

In the women's match, ECCC maintained control of the ball and the game by keeping the ball in play on the Lady Lions end of the field, but EMCC's Tina Porter struck first in the 12th minute of the match on a breakaway shot that landed in the back left hand corner of the goal to give the Lady Lions (0-5) the early 1-0 lead.

The Lady Warriors (2-3) responded four minutes later with a shot from Jerica Williamson that landed in the back right corner of the net to tie the game at 1-all.

Late in the first half, Williamson scored again on a shot that crossed the goal and stuck in the back right corner of the net with just minutes left before the first half whistle.

EMCC's keeper Katie Wallace allowed only two goals out of 25 shot taken on goal by the ECCC Lady Warriors in the game.

" We've had control of the ball for the last two or three games, " said ECCC's coach Ken Thompson. "They (women's team) has the same problem with finishing shots as the men's team does. We played really hard."

> *We lost 5-0 to them last time. Most of these girls have never played soccer before. Anything they do to boost their confidence will help them out this year.*
>
> **EMCC coach Brian Bennett**

EMCC is still looking for a win this season, but coach Brian Bennett says he sees improvement on the team.

"We lost 5-0 to them last time," Bennett said. "Most of these girls have never played soccer before. Anything they do to boost their confidence will help them out this year."

In the men's match, neither team was able to get a shot in the goal in the first half with the Lions taking six shots on goal and the Warriors taking three.

The only goal of the match came in the 15th minute of the second half by way of a penalty kick in the ECCC keeper box. EMCC's Sean Armstrong connected on the kick for the lone goal of the game, but it was enough for the Lions' win.

EMCC (1-4-1) held the Warriors for the remainder of the match despite ECCC getting 11 shots on goal in the half.

"They played hard, but we've got a lot of things we've got to get them to work on," said Thompson, whose men's team is 0-5-1. "There not spreading the other team's defense out so we've got to work on that. They're making marked progress and they're starting to play together."

For EMCC the win marks the first win for the team in the last three season, which Bennett said is big confidence boost for his team.

"We needed it (the win)," Bennett said. "In our district Hinds pretty much has it wrapped up, but right now second place is wide open."

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WEEK OF _____

Jones Joins ECCC Soccer Squad

Jaimee Jones of Louisville is a freshman member of the first women's soccer team at East Central Community College in Decatur. Jones, a defender/midfielder on the 2005 squad, is a graduate of Nanih Waiya High School. Kenneth Thompson is head coach of the Lady Soccer Warriors. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF _____

ECCC Soccer Players from Newton County

These Newton County High School graduates are members of the 2005 soccer teams at East Central Community College in Decatur. From left are midfielder Micah Lanier of Little Rock, midfielder/forward Maggie McDill and defender Taylor Nichols, both of Decatur; keeper Joy Cavenaugh and defender Amanda Eaves, both of Chunky; and manager John Walton of Decatur. Kenneth Thompson serves as head coach of the first Lady Soccer Warrior squad and the Soccer Warriors. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF _____

ECCC Neshoba County Lady Soccer Warriors

Neshoba County members of the first women's soccer team at East Central Community College in Decatur include (from left) midfielder Jerica Williamson, midfielder/forward Celeste Burt and keeper Samantha Giambrone, all of Philadelphia; and defender Megan Rosar and forward Angela Ferguson, both of Union. Kenneth Thompson serves as coach of the Lady Soccer Warriors.

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Perry

PERRY JOINS SQUAD

Alisha Perry, a freshman midfielder of Morton, is a member of the first women's soccer team at East Central Community College in Decatur.

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WEEK OF _____

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC SOCCER WARRIORS REUNITE

Former members of the East Central Community College soccer team returned to campus for an alumni match held as part of the 2005 Homecoming celebration. Participating in the annual event were (from left) Tim Stewart of Lena, Diego Perez of Forest, David Prewitt of Enterprise, Zach Kilpatrick of Philadelphia and Daniel Warren of Brandon, who are shown with soccer coach Kenneth Thompson. Prewitt serves as a student assistant for the 2005 team.

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WEEK OF _____

ECCC soccer Warriors

Members of the 2005 East Central Community College men's soccer team include (seated from left) kicker Mitch Myers, Brandon; midfielder David Harmond, Wiggins; midfielder Zach Joiner, Carthage; forward/defender Jason Lopez, Forest; forward/defender Randy Bankston, Philadelphia; midfielder Micah Lanier, Little Rock and defender Kale Gardner, Waynesboro; (kneeling from left) forward P. J. Harvey, Laurel; midfielder Reid Whittington, Lucedale; midfielder Blakeny Brown, Moss Point; defender Zachary Bullock, Lucedale; defender Taylor Nichols, Decatur; forward Nick Shanks and midfielder Alex Deason, both of Philadelphia; and (standing from left) head coach Kenneth Thompson; midfielder/defender Jason Murphey, Brandon; forward/defender Ivan Garcia, Forest; keeper Pablo Rodriguez, Madrid, Spain; keeper Zerell Gardner, Jackson; keeper/defender Wesley Haggard, Philadelphia; manager Jared Weir, Quitman; and student assistant David Prewitt, Enterprise. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Feb 21

ECCC softball ready for big year in 2005

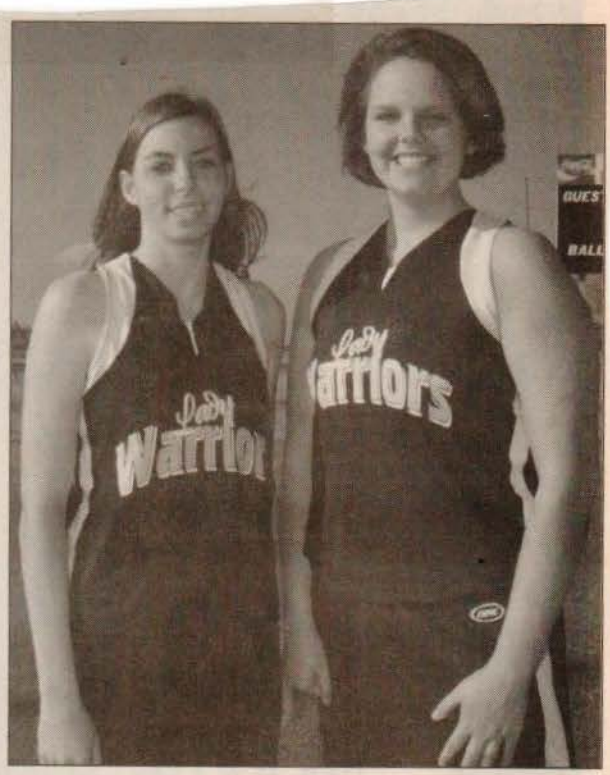
DECATUR — After leading the East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team to a successful 2004 season in his inaugural year as head coach, Scott Hill is hoping his Lady Warriors will enjoy even more success in 2005.

All six returnees were standouts on last year's squad, which advanced to the state playoffs after placing second in the MACJC Central Division with an 11-5 mark. The Lady Warriors fell to tournament host Northeast Mississippi Community College (5-0) and Pearl River Community College (7-5) en route to an overall 26-16 record.

The top returnee from 2004 is Kristin Chaney, a product of Newton County High School, who will again start at short stop. Chaney received second team All-American honors in Division II and was named first team All-State. She finished the season with a ..413 batting average and had four triples, seven doubles and 15 RBIs. She also stole 12 bases. Chaney, who is also a standout basketball player, will join the softball squad after basketball season.

Another top returnee is pitcher/first baseman Marley

See ECCC, page 10A



School Photo

Outfielder Allison McDaniel (left) and pitcher/infielder Lindsey Smith, both products of Neshoba Central High School, are members of the 2005 fast-pitch softball team at ECCC.

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WEEK OF Feb 28

ECCC Softball All-Americans Honored

Two members of the 2004 East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team received special recognition by head coach Scott Hill prior to the 2005 season opener against Mississippi Delta on Feb. 21 on the Decatur campus. Hill presented plaques and certificates to Krissi Harris (left) and Kristin Chaney in recognition of their selection to All-American teams following last year's 26-16 campaign. Harris (left), an outfielder, was named to the NJCAA Distinguished Academic All-American Team while also earning first team All-State and All-Division honors. A 2004 ECCC graduate, Harris is currently attending Mississippi State University. Chaney, a returning shortstop, was selected second team NJCAA All-American in Division II and was also chosen first team All-Region 23 and All-State and All-Division. In addition, she was selected the Lady Warriors' most valuable player. A dual sport star at ECCC, Chaney recently committed to play softball and basketball at the University of Southern Mississippi. Both are products of Newton County High School. (*ECCC Photo*)

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WEEK OF Feb 28

Lady Warriors Set

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—After leading the East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team to a successful 2004 season in his inaugural year as head coach, Scott Hill is hoping his Lady Warriors will enjoy even more success in 2005.

And he has good reason to be optimistic when this year's campaign started with a double-header against Mississippi Delta Community College Monday.

All six returnees were standouts on last year's squad, which advanced to the state playoffs after placing second in the MACJC Central Division with an 11-5 mark. The Lady Warriors fell to tournament host Northeast Mississippi Community College (5-0) and Pearl River Community College (7-5) en route to an overall 26-16 record.

The top returnee from 2004 is Kristin Chaney who will again start at short stop. Chaney received second team All-American honors in Division II and was named first team All-State. She finished the season with a .413 batting average and had four triples, seven doubles and 15 RBIs. She also stole 12 bases. Chaney, who is also a standout basketball player, will join the softball squad after basketball season.

Another top returnee is pitcher/first baseman Marley Smith who also made first team All-State. Smith recorded 13 wins on the mound and had a productive season at the plate by posting a .360 batting average. She led the Lady Warriors in hits with 50 and collected 22 RBIs.

Shelly Ferguson and Obreisha Davis are veteran outfielders who were also effective at the plate. Ferguson drove in 25 runs and led the team in doubles with nine. Davis finished the 2004 campaign with a .315 batting average. She also scored 19 runs and swiped nine bases.

Returning infielders expected to again have productive seasons are Kotreece Bender and Suzanne Chaney. Bender posted a .297 batting average with five doubles and 15 RBIs. Bender is also a basketball standout and will join the softball squad after basketball season. Chaney had eight doubles, 21 RBIs and led the team in walks with 24.

In addition to the returning talent on this year's squad, Hill said he is "very pleased" with the 11 freshmen who complete the 17-player roster.

"We should receive help on the mound from three very capable freshmen – Joy Cavenaugh, Lindsay Walker and Lindsey Smith. All three will share pitching duties," Hill said. Cavenaugh and Walker are also outfielders and Smith plays first base.

Hill said that newcomers Allison McDaniel and Erica Hardin should provide needed depth in the outfield. And he expects the infield play to be strengthened with the addition of second baseman Abby Miller,

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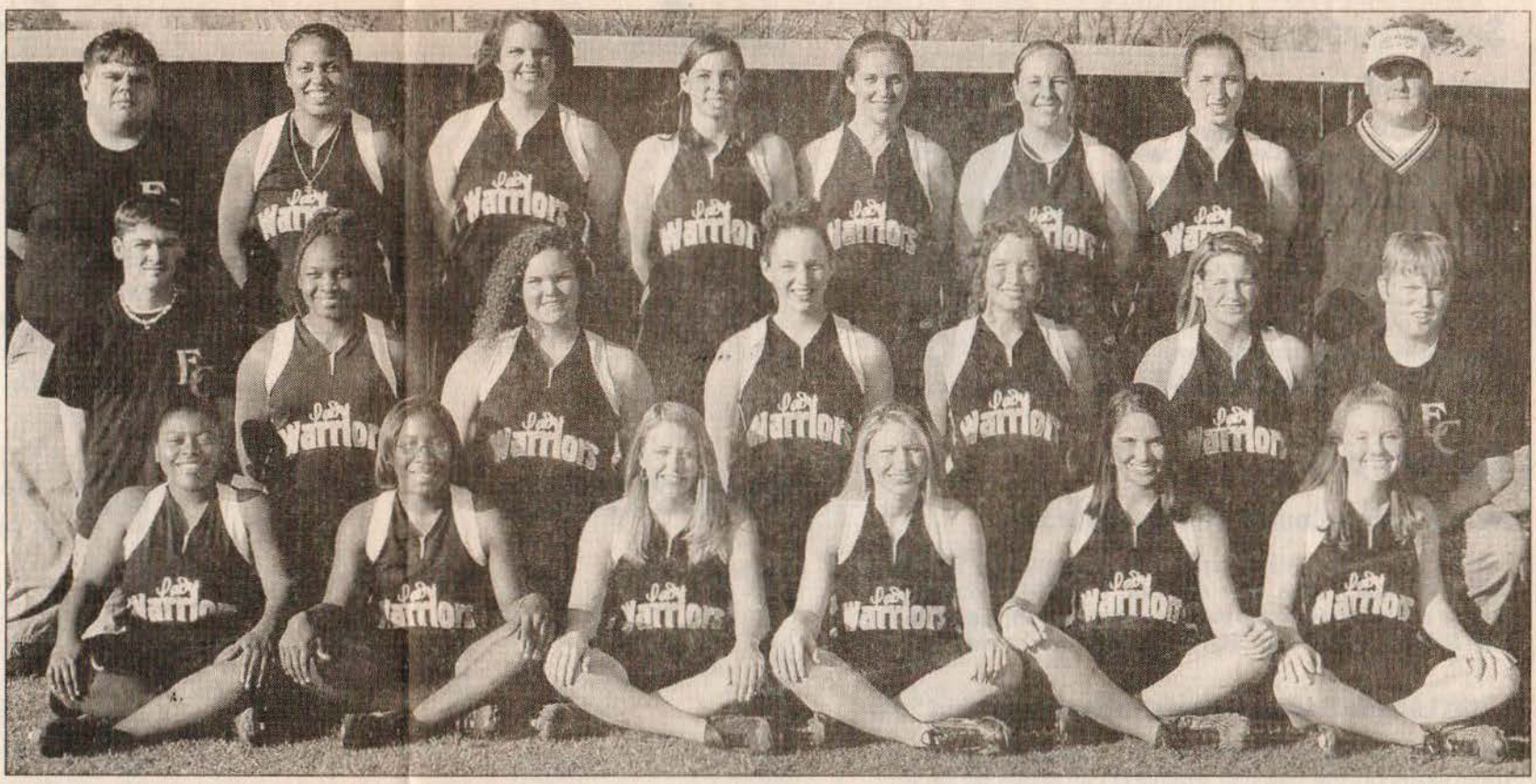
Sights On Winning '05 Campaign



ECCC PHOTO

Members of the East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team include (seated, from left) Dominique Mapp, Obreisha Davis, Suzanne Chaney, Kristin Chaney, Abby Miller, Lindsay Walker. (kneeling from left) manager Justin Copeland, Erica Hardin, Jennifer Smith, April Boyd, Shelly Ferguson, Chelsea Wade and manager Josh Cumberland. (standing, from left) manager Ben Melton, Leake Academy; Kotreece Bender, Lindsey Smith, Allison McDaniel; Marley Smith, Lauren White, Joy Cavenaugh, and head coach Scott Hill. The Lady Warriors began season action Monday in a doubleheader with Mississippi Delta Community College on the Decatur campus.

first basemen Chelsea Wade and Lauren White, third baseman Dominique Mapp and short stop April Boyd. Hill said that most of the catching duties will be in the capable hands of freshman Jennifer Smith.

In addition to being a talent-laden squad, Hill said this year's group has "depth and versatility."

"The first thing that I noticed about this team is that we have some depth. We also have a few players that can play a number of different positions. As a coach, it is always comforting to have depth and versatility."

Regarding the outlook for this year's squad, Hill said: "We feel we can be competitive in our league. If we stay healthy and play with some intensity all season, we should compete well in our (central) division.

"We were very pleased with our following last year, which played a tremendous role in our success," Hill said.

Feb 28

WEEK OF Feb 28

ECCC is flexible

By Marty Stamper
staff writer

DECATUR — Flexibility will be one of the strengths of the 2005 East Central Community College softball team.

Most of coach Scott Hill's 17 players are capable of playing more than one position.

Returning from last year's 26-16 team that advanced to the MACJC State/Region 23 Tournament are shortstop/catcher Kristin Chaney, pitcher/third baseman Marley Smith, second baseman Suzanne Chaney, right fielder Obreisha Davis, third baseman Kotreece Bender and center fielder Shelly Ferguson.

"We feel like we've got some different options that we can use," Hill said. "I think that's going to be a key, especially early in the season when we're missing (Bender and Kristin Chaney) because of basketball. It's good to have a little variety and folks that can do some different things.

"Hopefully, that will pay off for us as we get deeper in the season. You never can tell what might happen. You want girls that can adapt to change."

ECCC opened with a 6-1, 8-5 sweep of Mississippi Delta on Monday.

Also on the roster are second baseman Abby Miller, left fielder Allison McDaniel, first baseman Chelsea Wade, catcher/shortstop April Boyd, pitcher/center fielder Lindsay Walker, first baseman Lauren White, right fielder Erica Hardin, pitcher Lindsey Smith, pitcher/left fielder Joy Cavenaugh, third baseman/left fielder Dominique Mapp and catcher Jennifer Smith.

Most of Hill's team played on highly-successful programs in high school. McDaniel and Lindsey Smith were on Neshoba Central's Class 4A state runner-up team last year. The Chaneys, Cavenaugh, Davis, Mapp, Ferguson and Jennifer Smith were part of Class 3A state championships during their days at Newton County. Walker and White played on Union's team that defeated both Class 1A-2A state champion Clarkdale and 1A-2A state runner-up Desoto Central last spring. In fact, Walker blanked Clarkdale 4-0. Miller played on a quality team at Madison Central.

"We're fortunate to have some girls that have been in some big games," Hill said. "Hopefully, that will prove to be beneficial for us. As you go down the roster, you'll see that they come from good programs and I think that can only be good for us."

The Lady Warriors won 26 of their 40 regular season games in 2004.

"We feel good about that as a starting point," Hill said. "Hopefully, we can do a little better. We've got six sophomores back that played a lot. With the leadership from them and the freshmen coming in and filling in some of those key spots, we feel pretty good about our chance to compete in our division."

At A Glance

Schedule: Feb. 21, Miss. Delta, won 6-1, won 8-5; Feb. 24, at Copiah-Lincoln; March 1, Jones; March 3, at Miss. Delta; March 5, Gulf Coast; March 7, Copiah-Lincoln; March 10, at Jones; March 22, at Gulf Coast; March 24, Pearl River; March 29, at Holmes; March 31, Meridian; April 6, at Hinds; April 8, Coahoma; April 12, East Mississippi; April 14, at Pearl River; April 16, Holmes; April 20, at Meridian; April 23, Hinds; April 26, at Coahoma; April 30, at East Mississippi.

Team members: Abby Miller, Allison McDaniel, Chelsea Wade, April Boyd, Lindsay Walker, Lauren White, Kristin Chaney, Marley Smith, Erica Hardin, Suzanne Chaney, Lindsey Smith, Joy Cavenaugh, Obreisha Davis, Dominique Mapp, Kotreece Bender, Shelly Ferguson and Jennifer Smith.

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WEEK OF March 14

EC softball sweeps Jones

from school reports

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team improved to 9-3 following a doubleheader sweep of Jones County Junior College Thursday afternoon in Ellisville.

The Lady Warriors won the first contest 4-1 as Marley Smith of Union allowed just four hits in picking up her fifth win on the mound against no defeats.

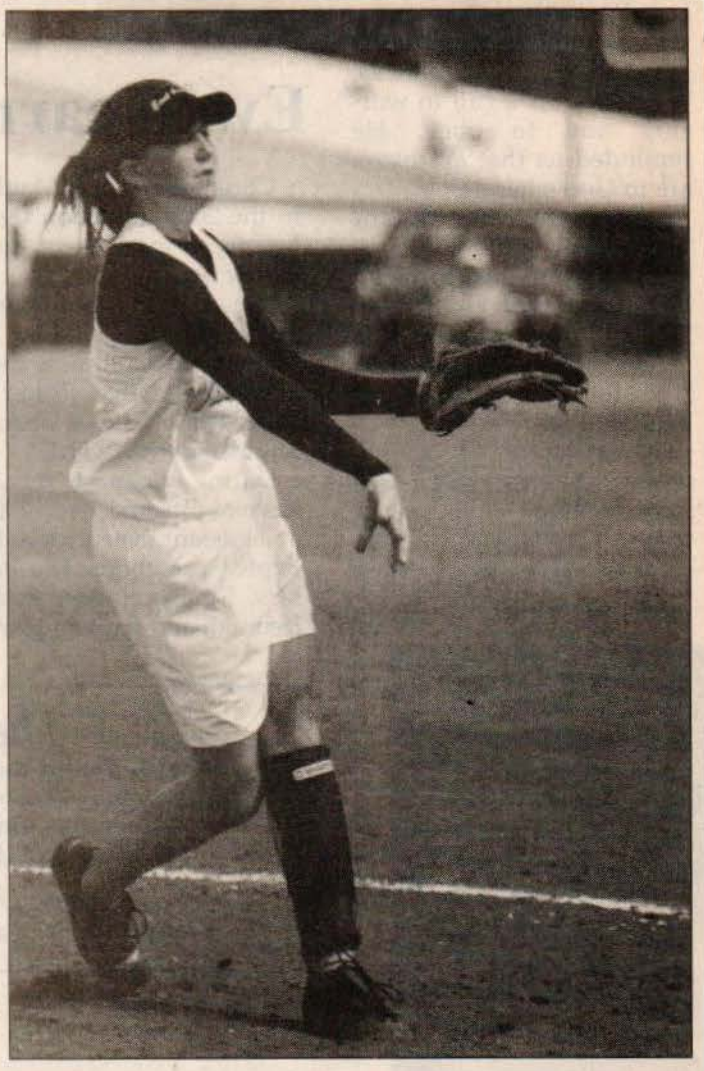
Dominique Mapp of Newton County, Lauren White of Union and Abby Miller of Madison Central each had a double to lead EC sluggers.

East Central cruised to a 15-0 win in the second game, which was called after four innings due to the 10-run rule. Lindsey Smith of Neshoba Central improved to 3-2 as she and Lindsay Walker of Union allowed no hits in shutting down the Jones offense.

Mapp, Erica Hardin of Louisville and Joy Cavenaugh of Newton County each had doubles to lead the Lady Warriors, who pounded 18 hits in claiming the easy victory.

The Lady Warriors, led by second-year head coach Scott Hill, return to action following Spring Break by traveling to Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College for a doubleheader starting at 1 p.m. on the Perkinston campus.

EC hosts Pearl River Community College at 1 p.m. Thursday, February 24.



Off to Good Start

East Central sophomore pitcher Marley Smith of Union is 5-0 on the mound thus far. The Lady Warriors were 9-3 going into Spring Break. ***Photo by Marty Stamper.***

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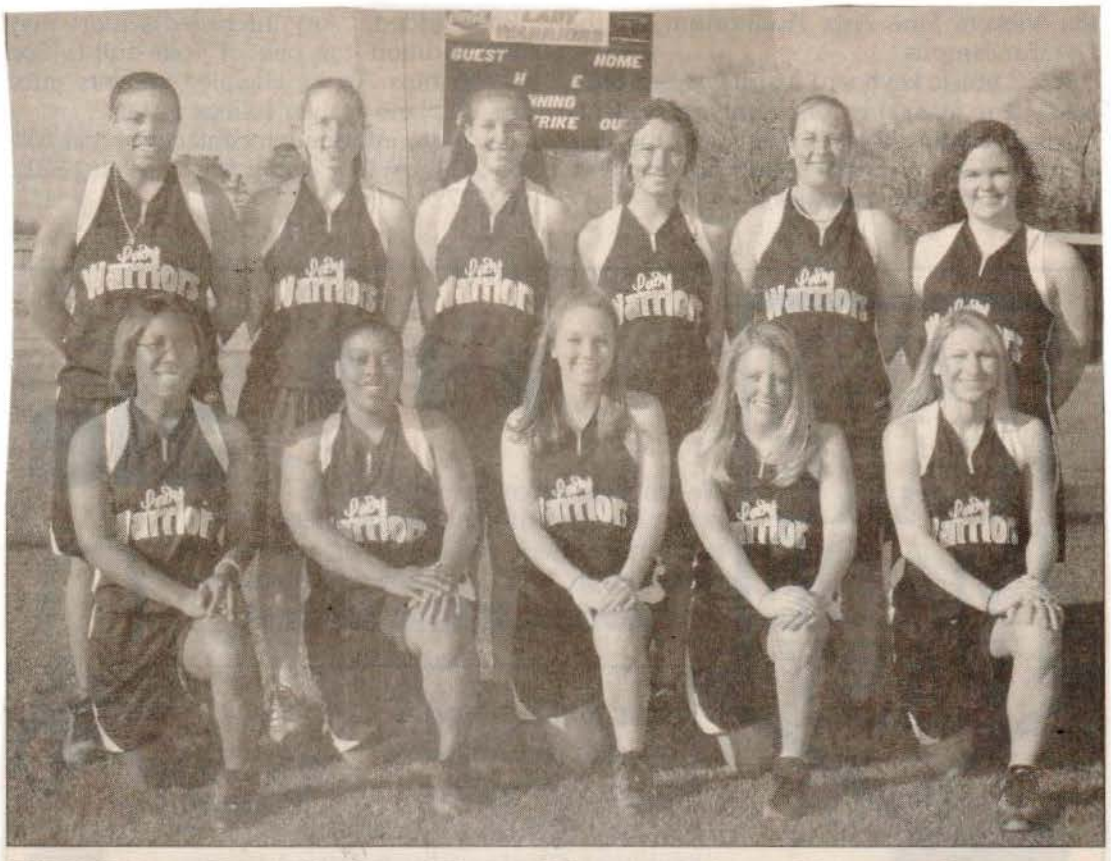
WEEK OF March 21



ECCC Fast-Pitch Softball Team Members from Newton County

These Newton County athletes are members of the fast-pitch softball team at East Central Community College in Decatur. Kneeling, from left, are outfielder Obreisha Davis and infielder/outfielder Dominique Mapp, both of Newton County High School; pitcher/outfielder Lindsay Walker, Union; and infielder Suzanne Chaney and infielder/catcher Kristin Chaney, both of Newton County High School; (standing) infielder Kotreece Bender, Newton; pitcher/outfielder Joy Cavenaugh, Newton County High School; pitcher/infielder Marley Smith, Union; outfielder Shelly Ferguson, Newton County High School; and infielder Lauren White and catcher/infielder Jennifer Smith, both of Union. The Lady Warriors are scheduled to host Pearl River on Thursday at 1 p.m. in a doubleheader. Scott Hill serves as head coach. ***(EC Photo)***

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WEEK OF March 21

ECCC 9-5
Holmes 0-1

Abby Miller had two hits and two RBIs in the first game, and Kristin Chaney went 3-for-4 in the nightcap to lead East Central Community College to a doubleheader sweep over Holmes Community College on Tuesday.

The Lady Warriors won the opener 9-0, then took a 5-1 victory in the second game.

Marley Smith (7-0) took the win in the first contest, and Lindsey Smith (4-2) won in the second game.

Chaney also stole four bases for East Central in the nightcap. April Boyd and Kotreece Bender each tallied two RBIs in the second game. Chelsea Wade legged out an inside-the-park home run in the early game.

East Central is now 13-3 overall and will host Meridian Community College in a doubleheader on Thursday beginning at 3 p.m.

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Friday, April 01, 2005

ECCC sweeps Lady Eagles

By Marty Stamper / staff writer

Thursday, March 31, 2005 11:35 PM CST

OUT STEALING - East Central Community College's Obreisha Davis is tagged out by Meridian Community College's JorD'an Orr as she attempts to steal second base. PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

DECATUR - Anchored by two solid pitching performances by Marley Smith, the East Central Community College Lady Warriors took over sole possession of first place in the MACJC Central Division softball standings with a 3-2, 5-2 sweep of Meridian Community College on Thursday. The first game went eight innings.

ECCC improved to 15-3 overall and 4-0 in the division. MCC dropped to 5-16 and 2-2.

"I'm real proud of our girls right now," ECCC head coach Scott Hill said. "They played two real good ballgames. They fought all the way through both of them and I know what kind of team MCC always puts on the field. We are real tickled to come away with two wins."

Smith (9-0) gave up only seven hits in 14 innings. At one point in the opener, she retired 17 consecutive batters and sat down 25 of 26 over the two games.

"She was a workhorse," Hill said of the sophomore right-hander from Union. "She's had a good year. If she continues that, she'll give us a chance to win a few more games."

"Give credit where credit is due," MCC head coach Robert Eakins said of Smith. "She kept us off-balance, but right now, we're not a good team. We're going through some discipline things.

"When I put a team on the field, I want it to be my best nine that

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have abided by the rules. Right now, we've got a few that's going to have to learn that rules are not only on the field, they're also off the field."

In the opener, ECCC scored twice in the bottom of the eighth to get the win. Shelly Ferguson started at second base via the tiebreaker rule and scored on a two-out, two-strike double in the left-field corner by Kristin Chaney. Chaney scored the winning run when Abby Miller's fly ball fell in shallow right field.

MCC had taken a 2-1 lead in the top of the eighth as Kirby Shelby scored on a sacrifice fly by Stephanie Choo.

MCC went up 1-0 early as Ashley Rowley led off the game with a solo homer to left field. After letting two more runners reach base in the inning, Smith retired the next 17 batters she faced before J.J. Huggins lined a one-out single to center field in the top of the seventh.

Smith allowed three hits while striking out four. Allison McDaniel recorded seven fly ball outs in left field.

Choo (3-8) took the loss, giving up five hits and one walk while striking out five. She didn't allow a hit until Chaney led off the bottom of the fourth with a single to right field. Chaney scored on a sacrifice fly by Dominique Mapp.

Chaney went 2-for-4 and scored two runs for the Lady Warriors.

Three different players had one hit each for MCC.

Smith came back to toss a four-hitter in the second game. Erica Hardin provided the winning runs with a three-run homer to left field in the bottom of the third.

ECCC took a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the first. Chaney beat out an infield hit, but injured her ankle on the play. McDaniel came on as a pinch runner and scored on a single by Miller. Shelby (2-3) got out of the inning with the bases loaded.

MCC tied the game in the top of the second as JorD'an Orr led off with a double to left field and scored from third when Jessica Lawrence's fly ball was dropped in left field.

Chaney put the Lady Warriors up 2-1 in the bottom of the second when she reached on a two-out error and scored on another single by Miller.

The Lady Eagles pulled even in the third with Rowley leading off with a single to right field and scoring on a two-out single by Orr.

The Lady Warriors got a three-run homer from Hardin in the bottom of the third and Smith retired the next eight batters she faced. Hardin's blast was preceded by Jennifer Smith reaching on an error and Lauren White getting a single.

"You need some runs in big games like that," Hill said. "Both teams were scratching and clawing for some runs and that three-run homer gave us a little burst of energy that we needed at the time."

MCC had its own scary moment in the third when ECCC's Kotreece Bender smashed a line drive just above Shelby's knee cap. The ball caromed into foul territory down the left-field line as Shelby went down. She was able to continue and gave up just one more hit.

Back-to-back errors gave MCC two runners in the top of the sixth, but Smith got an inning-ending fielder's choice to escape the jam.

Miller went 3-for-4 with two RBIs to lead ECCC. Chaney scored a pair of runs.

Rowley and Orr both had two hits to account for the Lady Eagles' only hits.

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WEEK OF April

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

Lady Warriors sweep MCC

Special to the Record

With the score tied 2-2 in the bottom of the third and two runners on base, East Central Community College softball coach Scott Hill twice gave the bunt signal to freshman outfielder Erica Hardin.

But both times Hardin was unable to convert her coach's wishes, so he gave her the green light to swing away. And swing away she did as the Louisville High School product blasted a dinger over the left field fence and the Lady Warriors maintained their 5-2 lead for a doubleheader sweep of division foe Meridian Community College Thursday on the Decatur campus.

East Central rallied to take the first game by a 3-2 score in extra innings, with sophomore Kristin Chaney of Newton County High School scoring the winning run in the bottom of the eighth on a single by Abby Miller of Madison Central. Chaney had earlier doubled sending home sophomore Shelley Ferguson from second base. Ferguson is also a Newton County High School product.

See **ECCC**, Page 2B

ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

Union's Marley Smith hurls a pitch to the plate during warmups against Meridian Community College. Smith picked up the win in both games against the Lady Eagles.

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Cont'd

WEEK OF April 4

ECCC

From Page 1B

With the sweep, the Lady Warriors took sole possession of the top spot in the MACJC Central Division, improving to 15-3 and 4-0 while MCC slipped to 5-16 and 2-2.

Sophomore hurler Marley Smith of Union picked up both wins for the Lady Warriors, improving her record to a perfect 9-0. Smith allowed just seven hits in 15 innings of work. During one stretch in the first game, the right-hander retired 17 consecutive batters.

"She (Smith) was the workhorse," Hill commented after the sweep. "She's had a good year. If she continues that, she'll give us a chance to win a few more games."

Hill was also complimentary of the entire squad.

"I'm real proud of our girls right now. They played two real good ballgames. They fought all the way through both of them and I know what kind of team MCC always puts on the field. We are real tickled to come away with two wins."

The Lady Warriors began division play by sweeping Holmes Community College March 29 in Goodman. East Central won the first game 9-0 and took the nightcap by a 5-1 margin.

Smith got the win in the opener and had a double. Chelsea Wade, a freshman product of Polk County (TN) High School, homered to lead EC hitters. Lindsey Smith of Neshoba Central was credited with winning the nightcap.

East Central goes on the road Wednesday to take on division rival Hinds Community College in Raymond, with doubleheader action getting underway at 1 p.m. The Lady Warriors entertain East Mississippi Community College beginning at 3 p.m. Tuesday, April 12, in another key division matchup.

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WEEK OF April 11

Lady Warriors take two from Lady Lions

By Marty Stamper
staff writer

DECATUR — East Central Community College snapped a scoreless tie with four runs in the bottom of the fifth inning as the Lady Warriors took a 4-1 win in the opener of Tuesday's MACJC Central Division doubleheader with East Mississippi Community College.

The league-leading Lady Warriors completed the sweep with an 8-1 victory in the second game.

ECCC improved to 6-0 in the division and 19-3 overall. EMCC dropped to 4-2 in the division.

Kristin Chaney started the big inning in the opener and she hit a one-out single to left field, then promptly swiped second base. Chaney scored the game's first run on Abby Miller's single to center field. Winning pitcher Marley Smith reached on a fielder's choice that saw both Lady Warriors advance. Dominique Mapp made it 2-0 with a single to left and Lauren White's single to center field extended the lead to 4-0.

The Lady Lions threatened as they loaded the bases with no outs in the top of the seventh. Kristi Tomlinson flew out to Shelly Ferguson in center field. Ferguson fired the ball back to Chaney at shortstop and her diving tag doubled off Allison Morgan at second base.

ECCC had nine hits with Miller and White both getting a pair of singles. Chaney, Smith, Mapp, Jennifer Smith, and Ferguson each had one hit.

Six players each had one hit for the Lady Lions. Getting hits were Monique Truman, Morgan, Tomlinson, Kirby Rutledge, and Krista Merrifield.

Marley Smith (10-0) got the win, with Libby Denny taking the loss.

In the second game, the Lady Warriors padded a 3-1 lead with four runs in the bottom of the fourth inning.

Lindsey Smith (5-2) got the win with Charly Speed taking the loss. Smith threw 64 of her 98 pitches for strikes. She struck out six and allowed five hits.

Erica Hardin had a single and a double to drive in one run for ECCC. Ferguson had a triple and two RBIs. Chaney had a pair of singles and one RBI. Miller had an RBI single, while April Boyd, Allison McDaniel and Joy

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April 11

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

SNEAKY STEAL

East Central Community College's Kristin Chaney slides by the tag of East Mississippi Community College's Lindsey Raines with a steal of second base.

Cavenaugh each had one single.

Tomlinson, Speed, Denny, Constance Ewings and Amber Peters each had one single for the Lady Lions.

WEEK OF April 11

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

TAGGED OUT

Meridian Community College's J. J. Huggins tags out East Central Community College's Kristin Chaney as she runs to first base after a bunt. ECCC won both games of Wednesday's doubleheader against MCC.

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April 11

ECCC makes clean sweep of Lady Eagles

By Tony Krausz
sports editor

Marley Smith had enough left in her right arm to seal a doubleheader sweep for East Central Community College on Wednesday.

The Lady Warriors pitcher, who picked up a complete-game win in the opener, recorded the second game's final three outs to seal a 10-7 win for ECCC at Northeast Park. It was her second save of the season.

"(Smith) came in and had a lot of composure," said Lady Warriors coach Scott Hill, whose team won the first game 4-1. "She had runners on first and third (base), and she made some really good pitches at a crucial time for us."

Prior to Smith's reentry into the doubleheader in the seventh inning of the final game, ECCC tore through MCC's 6-4 lead in the top of half of the last frame.

The Lady Warriors' Erica Hardin and Kotreece Bender each drew walks to start the inning, and Joy Cavenaugh brought them home with a double down the third-base line to tie the game at 6.

Kristin Chaney brought home Cavenaugh two batters latter for a one-run lead, and Abby Miller brought Chaney home with an RBI single for an 8-6 advantage. ECCC scored its final two runs of the game off a dropped fly ball by Shalonda Mitchell in right field with two outs.

"The difference between us and ECCC right now is, first of all, they have a heart and second, they are a good ballclub," said Lady Eagles coach Robert Eakins, whose team fell to 11-22 overall and 8-4 in the Central Division. "When you have heart and determination, you are never out of a ball game. We are working on that with this team, developing some character."

ECCC's sweep put the Lady Warriors in the Central Divison's driver's seat, as the team improved to 23-3 and 10-0 in league play. The Lady Warriors hold a four-game lead for first place and the right to host the Region XXIII tournament over the Lady Eagles.

See **ECCC**
Page C5

From Page C1

"We still have plenty of division ball games left," said Hill, whose team faces Hinds on Saturday. "We have to play Hinds and East Mississippi, and we know there are no gimees at all in this division."

ECCC took a 1-0 lead in the top of second inning on an RBI single from Hardin, but MCC responded with a two-run double from Brandi Wright in the bottom of the second for a 2-1 lead.

The Lady Warriors retook the lead scoring two runs on an error by Wright in the third inning, and Dominique Mapp hit a one-run single in the fourth to give ECCC a 4-2 advantage.

MCC's Nikki McClaskey cut into ECCC's lead with an RBI single in the bottom of the fourth, and Ashley Rowley delivered a three-run home run in the fourth to give the Lady Eagles a 6-3 lead.

After giving up six runs on three hits and an error in the top of the seventh, MCC produced one run on an error by Cavenaugh for the final run of the game.

ECCC	**4**
MCC	**1**

Smith kept MCC's offense at bay for most of the first game, scattering eight hits and striking out five Lady Eagles.

The first-game win was Smith's 11th of the season.

ECCC took a 3-0 lead that it never relinquished in the top of the second inning. Mapp and Jennifer Smith opened the inning with back-to-back singles, and they both later scored.

Lauren White, who reached on a triple to right field, tallied the Lady Warriors' final run of the second. MCC's Katie Barnett scored her team's only run in the bottom of the second, but ECCC scored the game's final run in the top of the fifth off an error by Kirby Shelby.

MCC can still clinch a playoff spot with a sweep of East Mississippi Community College on Saturday. The Lady Eagles, who swept the Lady Lions earlier this year, travel to Scooba for a noon doubleheader.

"The two (games) Saturday will be the most important," Eakins said.

WEEK OF April 11

Smith, Chaney lead Lady Warriors

Sophomore pitcher Marley Smith of Union and sophomore shortstop/catcher Kristin Chaney of Newton County were the top performers for the East Central Community College Lady Warriors softball team through 20 games.

Smith was 10-0 in the circle with one save. She had a 0.77 ERA in 64 innings with 49 strikeouts and only nine walks. At the plate, her .472 batting average was second only to Chaney's .480. Chaney was 6-of-6 in stolen bases.

ECCC had a team batting average of .341, a staff ERA of 2.17 and a team fielding percentage of .951.

A sweep of Holmes Community College on last Friday increased ECCC's overall record to 21-3.

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WEEK OF April 25

ECCC Lady Warriors sweep Hinds again; Improve to 27-3

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team recorded its second sweep of Hinds Community College in a three-day period by posting 13-4 and 11-0 decisions Monday afternoon on the Raymond campus.

With the wins, the Lady Warriors improved to 27-3 overall and 14-0 in division play under second-year head coach Scott Hill. The East Central women clinched the MACJC Central Division title by sweeping the Lady Eagles (7-1, 9-0) Saturday afternoon in Decatur.

Marley Smith of Union picked up the win for EC in the first game, improving her record to a perfect 14-0. Smith also doubled for EC as did her Union teammate Lauren White and Newton County product Dominique Mapp.

The Lady Warriors scored seven runs in the top of the seventh to clinch the victory.

Lindsey Smith of Neshoba Central got the win for EC in the second game, as she improved her record to 7-2.

Top sluggers for the Lady Warriors were Joy Cavenaugh of Newton County, triple; and Kotreece Bender of Newton, Lindsay Walker of Union, Erica Hardin of Louisville and Kristin Chaney of Newton County, who had doubles each.

East Central scored four runs in the first, two in the second and three in the third in claiming the shut-out victory.

The Lady Warriors have three doubleheaders remaining prior to hosting the MACJC/Region 23 Championship scheduled May 6-8 on the Decatur campus.

East Central travels to Coahoma on May 26 and East Mississippi on May 30. The Lady Warriors close out regular season play by hosting Copiah-Lincoln on Monday, May 2, with doubleheader action getting underway at 1 p.m.

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WEEK OF May 2

ECCC Lady Warriors Sweep EMCC In Regular Season Finale

DECATUR--East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team ended regulation season competition with a doubleheader sweep of East Mississippi Community College Friday afternoon in Scooba. The Lady Warriors won the first game 12-6 and took the nightcap by an 8-0 decision. With the victories, EC improved to 31-3 overall and 16-0 in division action under second-year head coach Scott Hill. East Central earlier clinched the MACJC Central Division and by so doing qualified to host this year's MACJC/Region 23 Championship scheduled Friday-Sunday (May 6-8). The Lady Warriors are scheduled to begin tournament competition by taking on Copiah-Lincoln Community College at 3 p.m. Friday. Finals in the double-elimination tournament will be held at 3:30 p.m. Sunday. Sophomore hurler Marley Smith of Union picked up the win in the first game and improved her record to a perfect 15-0. Smith pitched five innings, allowing one run on five hits. She fanned six batters. Freshman Lindsey Walker, also of Union, hurled the final two innings, allowing five runs on three hits. She fanned two. Smith also had a double and single and drove in three runs to lead the Lady Warrior offense. She also scored twice. Newton County High School products Kristin Chaney and Shelly Ferguson had two singles and two RBIs apiece and each scored a run. Singles were recorded by Abby Miller of Madison Central, Allison McDaniel of Neshoba Central, Lauren White of Union, and Dominique Mapp, Jennifer Smith and Suzanne Chaney, all of Newton County. Miller, McDaniel, Mapp, Jennifer Smith, White, Ferguson and Obreisha Davis of Newton County also scored for EC. East Central tallied two runs in the second, two in the fifth, seven in the sixth and one in the seventh to claim the easy victory. The Lady Lions scored one in the third, four in the sixth and one in the seventh. Freshman pitcher Lindsey Smith of Union won the second game and improved her record to 8-2. Smith went the distance in the six-inning matchup, allowing just four hits in the shutout. She fanned three

See "ECCC" page 6

batters. Joy Cavenaugh of Newton County had a double and single to lead Lady Warrior hitters. She also had three RBIs. Chaney had two singles and was credited with an RBI. Chelsea Wade, a product of Polk County High School in Benton, TN, also had two singles. Singles were recorded by April Boyd of Adams Christian and Lindsey Walker. Runs were scored by Chaney (2), Cavenaugh (2), Wade (2), Boyd, Miller, Erica Hardin of Louisville and Lindsey Walker. Hardin also had an RBI. East Central scored three runs in the third, one in the fifth and four in the six.

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WEEK OF May 2

EC to host s'ball tourney

Region and state titles and a trip to the national tournament will be on the line for six JUCO squads when the MACJC/Region 23 Softball Championship is held May 6-8 at East Central Community College in Decatur.

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team ended regulation season competition with a doubleheader sweep of East Mississippi Community College Friday afternoon in Scooba.

The Lady Warriors won the first game 12-6 and took the nightcap by an 8-0 decision. With the victories, EC improved to 31-3 overall and 16-0 in division action under second-year head coach Scott Hill.

Sophomore hurler Marley Smith of Union picked up the win in the first game and improved her record to a perfect 15-0. Freshman pitcher Lindsey Smith of Union won the second game and improved her record to 8-2.

The Lady Warriors, who sport a 31-3 record under second-year head coach Scott Hill, are the designated hosts for the 2005 tournament after wining MACJC Central Division title with a perfect 16-0 mark.

The annual tournament is rotated among division champions.

Joining ECCC in the double-elimination event are Meridian Community College (13-24), Central Division runners-up; North Division winner Northeast Mississippi Community College (28-12) and runner-up Northwest Mississippi Community College (33-5), and South Division champion Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College (31-7) and runner-up Copiah-Lincoln Community College (27-4).

First-round action on Friday features Meridian taking on Northwest at 1 p.m. followed by the East Central/Co-Lin matchup at 3 p.m. Gulf Coast will play the Northwest/Meridian winner at 5 p.m., and Northeast will battle the ECCC/Gulf Coast victor at 7 p.m.

Games Saturday begin at noon and end with the 6 p.m. contest.

A 1:30 p.m. matchup is scheduled Sunday followed by the championship game at 3:30 p.m. If an additional game is needed to determine a champion, the contest will be held at 5:30 p.m.

The winner advances to the 2005 NJCAA Division II Fast-Pitch Softball Championship scheduled May 19-21 at Fort Dodge, Iowa.

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WEEK OF May 2

ECCC rolls into tourney

By Marty Stamper
staff writer

DECATUR — Before the 2005 fast-pitch softball season began, East Central Community College head coach Scott Hill said the strengths of this year's team would be its depth, its versatility, and the fact that nearly all of the players came from championship high school teams.

The Lady Warriors have backed up Hill's assessment as they finished 31-3 in the regular season and ride a 24-game winning streak heading into the MACJC State/Region XXIII Softball Tournament which begins Friday at ECCC. Tickets are $5 per day.

The Lady Warriors cruised through the MACJC Central Division with a perfect 16-0 mark.

Hill generally plays at least 15 of his 17 players in each doubleheader.

"That's been one of our strongest assets," Hill said. "We do have a lot of different folks that contribute. It's provided a whole lot of fun. We've got players that are really pushing each other and have had a lot of fun doing so. It's been nice to see different people step up at different times."

Those who don't see action in the first game cheer on their teammates and know they'd better produce in the second game. First-game starters do the same in the second games.

"That's definitely motivation when you see somebody playing the same position as you and doing a good job," Hill said. "It's been nice to just stick them out there and each of them contribute in their own way."

ECCC's first-round opponent will be Copiah-Lincoln Community College at 3 p.m. Friday. That winner will take on Northeast Mississippi Community College at 7 p.m. Friday. Also in the tournament are Meridian Community College, Northwest Mississippi Community College, and Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.

ECCC and Co-Lin split a doubleheader at Wesson on Feb. 25 with the Lady Warriors winning 7-0 in the first game and Co-Lin taking a 4-0 victory in the second game.

"That's one of the two times that we were shut out," Hill said. "We can't take anything away from Co-Lin. It's going to be a dogfight for us to win that ballgame. We've got to understand that.

"Co-Lin is going to be a real good test right off the bat. They've got a good group of hitters. They're going to hit the ball and they've shown that.

"We've hit the ball good all year

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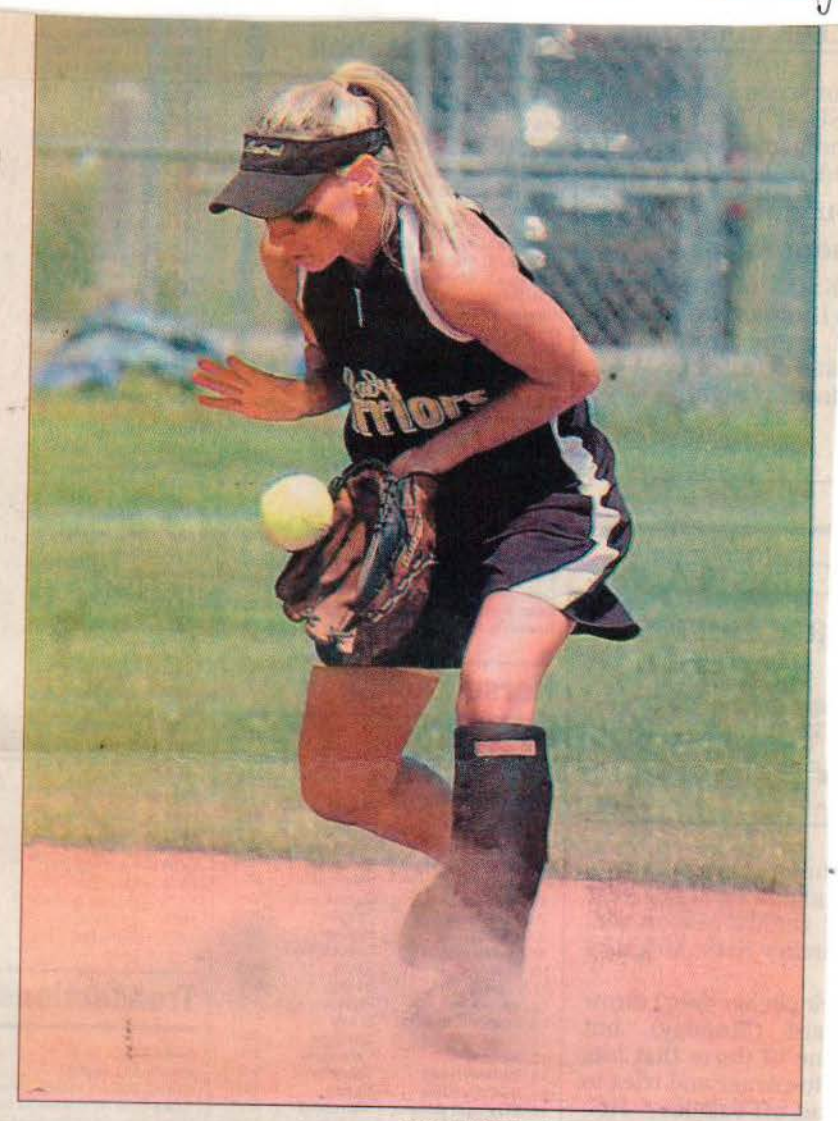

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

SCOOP

East Central Community College's Kristin Chaney scoops up a high-bouncing ground ball in a game earlier this season. The Lady Warriors, who won the MACJC Central Division regular-season title, will host the MACJC State/Region XXIII Softball Tournament on Friday-Sunday.

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WEEK OF May 2

From Page C1

and I think they will also be ready to go at the plate. We've got to make the plays defensively."

ECCC has a .353 team batting average, while opponents are hitting just .202 off Lady Warrior pitchers.

Having players come in from solid high school programs hasn't hurt ECCC's success.

Sophomore shortstop/catcher Kristin Chaney (.508, 11 RBIs, 15 SB), sophomore second baseman Suzanne Chaney (.366), freshman outfielder Joy Cavenaugh (.257, 12 RBIs), sophomore right fielder Obreisha Davis (.341), freshman third baseman Dominique Mapp (.377, 21 RBIs), sophomore center fielder Shelly Ferguson (.333, 14 SB) and freshman catcher Jennifer Smith (.284, 13 RBIs) saw action on Newton County's 2002 and 2003 Class 3A state championship teams. Freshman left fielder Allison McDaniel (.333) and freshman pitcher Lindsey Smith played on Neshoba Central's 2004 Class 4A state runner-up team. Freshman second baseman Abby Miller (.330, 21 RBIs, 10 SB) played on Madison Central's 2004 Class 5A state runner-up team.

Freshman shortstop April Boyd (.403, 13 RBIs, 18 SB) played on a slow-pitch state championship team at Adams County Christian School, as did freshman pitcher Lindsay Walker (.250), sophomore pitcher Marley Smith (.458, 17 RBIs) and freshman first baseman Lauren White (.311, 17 RBIs) at Union.

Completing the roster are freshman first baseman Chelsea Wade (.235) of Polk County (Tenn.), sophomore right fielder Erica Hardin (.386, 11 RBIs) of Louisville and sophomore third baseman Kotreece Bender (.207) of Newton. Bender played on ECCC's 2004 region champion and 2005 region runner-up basketball squad.

"If we can get players that have already played in big games, that makes it a whole lot easier for us," Hill said. "These kids have played in good programs. Not only do we have good players in our district, we've complemented them with some good players from out of district that have provided some help for us."

Marley Smith leads the Lady Warriors on the mound with a perfect 15-0 mark to go with a 1.04 ERA. In 94 innings, she has 80 strikeouts and only 15 walks. Lindsey Smith is 8-2 with a 2.92 ERA. Walker is 4-0.

"We've got to get the same kind of performances on the mound that we've had throughout the season," Hill said. "If we get those performances, then defensively, we've got to make the plays behind our pitcher.

"If we can do those two things and get some good clutch hitting, I think that we can be successful here," Hill added. "We're going to have opportunities to drive a run in here or there. The difference is whether you get that big hit or not."

Co-Lin was ranked No. 5 nationally in the NJCAA Division II poll entering this week. Gulf Coast and Northwest received votes, but ECCC did not.

"Hopefully, we can continue to sneak up on folks," Hill said. "That's something for us to shoot for. Maybe we can end in the poll, and that's where you want to look at a poll."

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____ ...GINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____ NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

UNION APPEAL _____ NEWTON RECORD _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____ MERIDIAN STAR ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____ CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF May 2

Area JUCOs face off in tournament

By Marty Stamper
staff writer

DECATUR — Six community college fast-pitch softball teams will battle for one berth in the NJCAA Division II Championships this weekend at East Central Community College.

The tournament counts as both the MACJC state and NJCAA Region XXIII Division II championships.

Play begins today at 1 p.m., when Meridian Community College takes on Northwest Mississippi Community College. At 3 p.m., the Lady Warriors of East Central square off with Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

At 5 p.m., the Meridian-Northwest winner faces Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, while at 7 p.m., the ECCC-Co-Lin winner meets Northeast Mississippi Community College.

East Central went 15-1 on its home field this spring, excluding two forfeits from Coahoma Community College.

"It means a lot to be right here on our field," said Scott Hill, who is 57-19 in his second year as ECCC head coach. "You have pride in playing well at home. We've done well thus far at home. We'll have a lot of fans here, and that means a lot to us. Our fans have been really good all year in supporting us. We

From Page B1

need to do our part and give them something really good to watch."

Hill sees no favorite in the field.

"When you're looking at all six teams, I think you're looking at a bunch of teams that can come in here and win this tournament," Hill said. "There's not going to be an easy ballgame. Northeast and Northwest traditionally have good programs. Down South, you've got Co-Lin and Gulf Coast who have been winning a lot of ballgames. In our Central Division, you've got the defending state champions in Meridian. They went to Iowa last year and know what it takes to get there. They're hungry to do well in this tournament."

Tickets are $5, which are good for all the games in a day.

"We invite everybody to come out," Hill said. "I think it's going to be one of the most entertaining things that's happened around here in a while. I think everybody will get their money's worth."

East Central enters the tournament with a 31-3 record and a 24-game win streak. Marley Smith of Union is 15-0 with a 1.04 ERA. Lindsey Smith of Neshoba Central is 8-2, while Lindsay Walker of Union is 4-0.

Kristin Chaney of Newton County is the Lady Warriors' top batter, as she sports a .508 average with four doubles, two triples, and 11 RBIs. She is 15-of-15 in stolen bases.

Smith bats .458 with three doubles and 17 RBIs. April Boyd of Adams County Christian School is batting .403 with 13 RBIs and 18 steals.

Other top hitters are Erica Hardin (.386), Dominique Mapp (.377), Suzanne Chaney (.366), Obreisha Davis (.341), Shelly Ferguson (.333), Abby Miller (330), and Lauren White (.311). Ferguson has 14 steals, while Miller has 10.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
UNION APPEAL _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
NEWTON RECORD _____
MERIDIAN STAR ✓
CLARION-LEDGER _____

May 2

ECCC's 31 wins is the highest win total in school history.

Meridian enters the tournament with a 13-24 record. The Lady Eagles were in a similar situation last year and went on to advance to the national tournament, which is held in Fort Dodge, Iowa.

Key to MCC will be the pitching of Stephanie Choo (7-11) and Kirby Shelby (4-5). Other top performers are left fielder Ashley Rowley, center fielder Courtney Gray, catcher Katie Barnett, shortstop JorD'an Orr, right fielder Emily Howard, third baseman Jessica Lawrence and first baseman J.J. Huggins.

The Lady Eagles are led by head coach Robert Eakins, who began the fast-pitch program in 1998. Several of his teams participated in the Division I national tournament before MCC dropped to Division II last year.

The tournament continues through Sunday. The winner advances to the Division II championships on May 19-21.

WEEK OF May 2

ECCC announces fast-pitch softball signees

Five area softball standouts have signed national letters of intent with East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Lady Warrior softball coach Scott Hill.

Joining the ECCC squad for the 2005-06 campaign are first baseman Samantha Giambrone of Neshoba Central; outfielder Loren Kennedy and catcher Tiffany Thomas, both of Union; outfielder Candace Griffin of Philadelphia; and shortstop Amanda Schmidt of Carthage.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 2

ECCC goes 1-1 in opening day

By Marty Stamper
staff writer

DECATUR — The East Central Community College Lady Warriors experienced the highs and lows of the fast-pitch softball world Friday in the opening day of the MACJC State/Region XXIII Tournament.

ECCC opened with a 3-1 victory over fourth-ranked Copiah-Lincoln, then dropped its second game 5-0 to Northeast Mississippi and fell into the losers' bracket.

The loss to Northeast snapped a school record 25-game win streak.

ECCC (32-4) faces Northwest Mississippi (33-6) at 2 p.m. today and needs five wins to advance to the nationals at Fort Dodge, Iowa, which will be

See Lady Warriors
Page B2

From Page B1

held May 19-21.

"You win that first ballgame and you feel like you're just getting into the tournament good," ECCC head coach Scott Hill said. "Then you're back in the loser's bracket. Even though you've won one game, you're back to square one.

"We'll just have to see what we're made of (today)."

ECCC	**3**
Co-Lin	**1**

The Lady Warriors got a two-hitter from Marley Smith and a two-run single from Suzanne Chaney to knock off the fourth-ranked Lady Wolves in their first-round game.

ECCC extended its winning streak to 25 and improved its record to 32-3.

"We had some young ladies that really stepped up and had some crucial hits along with a good pitching performance and a good defensive performance," Hill said.

The Lady Warriors lost the services of shortstop Kristin Chaney for the game after she was hit by a pitch on the upper left arm in the bottom of the third inning. X-rays were negative.

ECCC took a 2-0 lead in the bottom of the fourth. Dominique Mapp started the rally with a single to center field. Jennifer Smith and Lauren White drew walks to load the bases with one out.

Suzanne Chaney gave the Lady Warriors the lead with a two-run single to left field.

Co-Lin (27-5) got its only run in the top of the sixth as Jessica Melton reached on an error, moved to second on a wild pitch, and scored on a sacrifice fly by Brandi Bridges after a sacrifice bunt by Megan Bateman.

Marley Smith (16-0) struck out five and walked one. The only runner she allowed over the first four innings came on a bunt single by Bridges in the top of the first.

Mapp and Suzanne Chaney both had two singles for ECCC. Emily Horne (21-5) took the loss.

Northeast	**5**
ECCC	**0**

Northeast jumped on ECCC starter Lindsey Smith (8-3) right off the bat, getting a pair of two-run homers from Torie Malone and Amber Hass in the first inning. Hass' blast chased Smith after just a third of an inning.

Marley Smith tossed the final 6 2/3 innings, allowing only one unearned run off four hits. She struck out five and walked two.

Northeast's Brenda Derbyshire (13-5) of White Rock, British Columbia, Canada, kept the ECCC batters in check as she allowed five hits and no walks, while striking out seven.

ECCC's only major threat came in the bottom of the fifth as Joy Cavenaugh doubled and went to third on a two-out single by Kristin Chaney. Derbyshire got Boyd on a comebacker to get out of the inning.

Five players each had one hit for ECCC, with Cavenaugh and Abby Miller both getting a double.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
UNION APPEAL _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
NEWTON RECORD _____
MERIDIAN STAR ✓
CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 2

Cont'd

From Page D1

the sixth as Dominique Mapp drew a two-out walk and scored on a single by Jennifer Smith.

The Lady Warriors had five hits with Abby Miller also getting a single.

Lacie McCulley (24-4) got the loss. She gave up five hits and one walk while striking out eight as Northwest finished 33-7.

ECCC	**5**
Gulf Coast	**4**

Kristin Chaney slid home with the winning run in the bottom of the ninth as the Lady Warriors staved off elimination on Saturday night.

Chaney led off the ninth and went all the way to second base on an error on the Gulf Coast third baseman. Miller bunted Chaney to third, and Chaney was safe in a collision at the plate following a grounder to shortstop by Marley Smith.

Gulf Coast took a 1-0 lead in the top of the first inning on a solo homer to center field by Emily LeBlanc.

The Lady Warriors went up 2-1 in the bottom of the first as Chaney led off with an infield hit, and Miller followed with a two-run homer to left field.

A two-run triple to right field by LeBlanc put the Lady Bulldogs up 3-2 in the top of the third. LeBlanc made it 4-2 when she scored on a single by Heather Matos.

The Lady Warriors tied the game at 4-4 in the bottom of the fourth on a two-run double to right-center by Kotreece Bender. Her hit scored courtesy runners Obreisha Davis and Allison McDaniel. ECCC had runners at second and third with one out, but Gulf Coast's Lindsay Long got Chaney to pop up and Miller to hit a comebacker to escape further damage.

Smith improved her record to 18-0 with the win. Long dropped to 16-5.

Gulf Coast finished at 32-9.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 9

ECCC fast-pitch finishes third

Special to The Record

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team finished third in the MACJC/Region 23 Fast-Pitch Softball Tournament held May 6-8 on the Decatur campus.

The ECCC women, who completed season action with a 34-5 record under second-year head coach Scott Hill, fell 8-1 to the Lady Tigers in semi-final action Sunday afternoon to close out competition in the double-elimination tournament.

The Lady Warriors posted wins over Copiah-Lincoln (3-1) on Friday and slipped past Northwest (3-0) and Gulf Coast 5-4 during Saturday contests. East Central lost its first matchup with Northeast by a 5-0 margin Friday night.

Meridian Community College won the championship title by defeating Northeast 4-2 .The MCC women went undefeated in the three-day event, posting wins over Northwest (2-1) and Gulf Coast (1-0) on Friday followed by another close win (1-0) over Northeast Saturday.

ECCC hurler Marley Smith of Union suffered her only loss of the year in the semi-final defeat to Northeast, allowing three runs on four hits during two and a third innings of work. Smith finished with a staggering 16-1 mark for the Lady Diamond Warriors. Lindsey Walker, also of Union, finished the contest on the mound, allowing five runs on six hits.

Dominique Mapp of Newton County led EC at the plate with a double and single. Kristin Chaney, Jennifer Smith and Obreisha Davis, all

See **THIRD**, Page 2B

Third

From Page 1B

products of Newton County High School, had two singles each; and Abby Miller of Madison Central had a single. Davis scored East Central's lone run.

ECCC 5, Gulf Coast 4

Kristin Chaney scored the winning run in the bottom of the ninth on an infield hit by Marley Smith. Gulf Coast had jumped out to a 1-0 lead in the first inning on Emily LeBlanc's solo homer. Abby Miller blasted a two-run shot in the bottom of the first to give East Central a 2-1 lead. Gulf Coast rallied for three runs in the third but EC tied the contest when Kotreece Bender of Newton doubled, scoring two Lady Warriors.

Chaney led EC hitters with three singles and scored twice. Bender added a double and singles were recorded by Miller, Mapp, Lauren White of Union, Erica Hardin of Louisville and Joy Cavenaugh of Newton County. Miller, Jennifer Smith and White also scored for EC.

Marley Smith went the distance for EC on the mound, allowing four runs on six hits. She fanned seven and walked three.

ECCC 3, Northwest 0

The Lady Warriors scored twice in the third and once in the sixth in recording the shut out victory. EC hitters were Chaney, Miller, Jennifer Smith and Shelly Ferguson and Suzanne Chaney, both Newton County products.

Marley Smith allowed just three hits in picking up the shut-out victory. She fanned five batters and walked two.

ECCC 3, Copiah-Lincoln 1

East Central began tournament action by slipping past the Lady Wolves on Marley Smith's two-hitter. EC was led at the plate by Mapp and Suzanne Chaney, who each recorded two singles; and April Boyd of Adams Christian and Jennifer Smith, singles each. Mapp, Smith and Suzanne Chaney also scored for EC.

Tournament scores

Friday: Meridian 2, Northwest 1; ECCC 3, Co-Lin 1; Meridian 1, Gulf Coast 0; Northeast 5, ECCC 0; Saturday: Gulf Coast 2, Co-Lin 1; ECCC 3, Northwest 0; Meridian 1, Northeast 0; ECCC 5, Gulf Coast 4; Sunday: Northeast 8, ECCC 1; and Meridian 4, Northeast 2 (championship game).

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 9

Record year ends early

by Marty Stamper

Hopes of a state and region championship ended for the East Central Community College softball team Sunday afternoon with an 8-1 loss to Northeast Mississippi Community College.

The Lady Warriors placed third in the six-team event. Their 34-5 record set a school record for wins.

"We don't have anything to be ashamed of," ECCC head coach Scott Hill said. "The girls have had a heck of a year, and I'm really proud of them. We would have liked to have gone on, but that's the way it worked out."

EC went 3-2 in the tournament, beating Copiah-Lincoln (3-1), losing 5-0 to Northeast, beating Northwest Mississippi (3-0) and Gulf Coast (5-4) before being eliminated by Northeast.

Meridian Community College then beat Northeast 4-2 in the finals to clinch its second-straight trip to the national tournament at Fort Dodge, Iowa.

ECCC	**3**
Copiah-Lincoln	**1**

Suzanne Chaney hit a two-run single to put the Lady Warriors up 2-0 in the bottom of the fifth inning Friday afternoon.

After Co-Lin closed to within 2-1 in the top of the sixth, Kristin Chaney added an RBI single that drove in Suzanne Chaney with an insurance run in the bottom of the sixth.

Marley Smith (16-0) got the win, allowing one unearned run on two hits. She struck out five.

EC, 32-3, had six hits with Dominique Mapp and Suzanne Chaney both getting a pair of singles. Jennifer Smith and April Boyd each had one single.

Northeast	**5**
ECCC	**0**

Brenda Derbyshire (13-5) tossed a five-hit shutout Friday night as Northeast blanked the Lady Warriors for the third straight time dating back to the 2004 season.

The Lady Tigers roughed up EC starter Lindsey Smith (8-3) early as they got two-run homers from Torie Malone and Amber Hass in the first inning.

Marley Smith tossed the final 6 2/3 innings. She allowed four hits and struck out five.

EC, 32-4, got one double each from Joy Cavenaugh and Abby Miller and a single apiece from Kristin Chaney, Dominique Mapp, and Kotreece Bender.

ECCC	**3**
Northwest	**0**

Marley Smith (17-0) tossed a three-hit shutout in Saturday's early elimination game. She struck out five and walked two.

The Lady Warriors scored twice in the third inning and once in the sixth. Suzanne Chaney and Kristin Chaney had RBI singles in the third frame and Jennifer Smith had an RBI single in the sixth.

The 33-4 Lady Warriors had five hits in the game. Also getting hits were Abby Miller and Shelly Ferguson.

Lacie McCulley (28-4) took the loss for Northwest, 33-7.

ECCC	**5**
Gulf Coast	**4**

Kristin Chaney scored the winning run in the bottom of the ninth inning on a fielder's choice by Marley Smith in Saturday night's elimination game.

Smith tossed a six-hitter to up her record to 18-0. She struck out seven and walked three.

Gulf Coast took a 1-0 lead in the first inning on Emily LeBlanc's solo homer.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

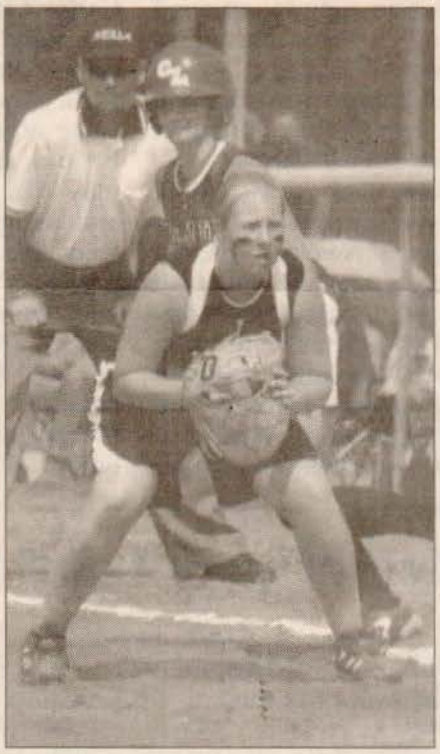
NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

May 9

for Lady Warriors



Ready at First
East Central's Lauren White is ready for a play at first base against Co-Lin in last week's MACJC State/Region 23 Tournament at Decatur. *Photo by Marty Stamper.*

Abby Miller put the Lady Warriors up 2-1 with a two-run blast in the bottom of the first.

Gulf Coast rallied for three runs in the third, but EC tied the contest when Kotreece Bender doubled home a pair of runs in the fourth frame.

EC, 34-4, had nine hits with Kristin Chaney getting three singles. She also scored a pair of runs. Dominique Mapp, Lauren White, Erica Hardin, and Joy Caven-augh each had one hit.

Lindsey Long (16-5) took the loss for Gulf Coast, 32-9.

Northeast	**8**
ECCC	**1**

Marley Smith (18-1) suffered her only loss of the year in the semifinal defeat, allowing three runs on four hits during two innings of work.

In EC's first four games in the tournament, she was 3-0 and had thrown 386 pitches in 29 2/3 innings. She had allowed 15 hits and eight walks, while striking out 22.

Lindsay Walker finished the contest on the mound, allowing five runs on six hits.

EC had several scoring threats during the game, but could only manage one run which came in the top of the fifth inning. Obreisha Davis beat out a two-out bunt and Kristin Chaney followed with a single to left field. Davis scored on a double to the fence in right-center field by Abby Miller.

EC, 34-5, stranded nine runners in the game, including seven in scoring position. The Lady Warriors left two runners on base in the fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh innings.

"We needed a hit or two here or there," Hill said. "We couldn't expect to shut anybody down. They're a good club and they had already shown that they can hit the ball. We knew we needed to hit the ball. We hit it, we just didn't hit it at the right time."

Chaney, Davis, Dominique Mapp and Jennifer Smith each had two of the Lady Warriors' nine hits.

Northeast improved to 28-13 with Shannon Vanderploeg (13-4) getting the win. Kelly Yates went 3-for-3 with a double for the Lady Tigers. Amber Hass had a single and a home run.

WEEK OF May 16, 2005

ECCC Lady Diamond

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team finished third in the MACJC/Region 23 Fast-Pitch Softball Tournament held May 6-8 on the Decatur campus.

The ECCC women, who completed season action with a 34-5 record under second-year head coach Scott Hill, fell 8-1 to the Lady Tigers in semi-final action Sunday afternoon to close out competition in the double-elimination tournament.

The Lady Warriors posted wins over Copiah-Lincoln (3-1) on Friday and slipped past Northwest (3-0) and Gulf Coast 5-4 during Saturday contests. East Central lost its first matchup with Northeast by a 5-0 margin Friday night.

Meridian Community College won the championship title by defeating Northeast 4-2 .The MCC women went undefeated in the three-day event, posting wins over Northwest (2-1) and Gulf Coast (1-0) on Friday followed by another close win (1-0) over Northeast Saturday.

ECCC hurler Marley Smith of Union suffered her only loss of the year in the semi-final defeat to Northeast, allowing three runs on four hits during two and a third innings of work. Smith finished with a staggering 16-1 mark for the Lady Diamond Warriors. Lindsey Walker, also of Union, finished the contest on the mound, allowing five runs on six hits.

Dominique Mapp of Newton County led EC at the plate with a double and single. Kristin Chaney, Jennifer Smith and Obreisha Davis, all products of Newton County High School, had two singles each; and Abby Miller of Madison Central had a single. Davis scored East Central's lone run.

ECCC 5, Gulf Coast 4

Kristin Chaney scored the winning run in the bottom of the ninth on an infield hit by Marley Smith. Gulf Coast had jumped out to a 1-0 lead in the first inning

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

May 16, 2005

Warriors Finish Third

on Emily LeBlanc's solo homer. Abby Miller blasted a two-run shot in the bottom of the first to give East Central a 2-1 lead. Gulf Coast rallied for three runs in the third but EC tied the contest when Kotreece Bender of Newton doubled, scoring two Lady Warriors.

Chaney led EC hitters with three singles and scored twice. Bender added a double and singles were recorded by Miller, Mapp, Lauren

White of Union, Erica Hardin of Louisville and Joy Cavenaugh of Newton County. Miller, Jennifer Smith and White also scored for EC.

Marley Smith went the distance for EC on the mound, allowing four runs on six hits. She fanned seven and walked three.

ECCC 3, Northwest 0

The Lady Warriors scored twice in the third and once in the sixth in recording the shut out victory. EC hitters were Chaney, Miller, Jennifer Smith and Shelly Ferguson and Suzanne Chaney, both Newton County products.

Marley Smith allowed just three hits in picking up the shutout victory. She fanned five batters and walked two.

ECCC 3, Copiah-Lincoln 1

East Central began tournament action by slipping past the Lady Wolves on Marley Smith's two-hitter. EC was led at the plate by Mapp and Suzanne Chaney, who each recorded two singles; and April Boyd of Adams Christian and Jennifer Smith, singles each. Mapp, Smith and S. Chaney also scored for the Lady Warriors.

Tournament scores: Friday-Meridian 2, Northwest 1; ECCC 3, Copiah-Lincoln 1; Meridian 1, Gulf Coast 0; Northeast 5, East Central 0;

Saturday—Gulf Coast 2, Copiah-Lincoln 1; East Central 3, Northwest 0; Meridian 1, Northeast 0; East Central 5, Gulf Coast 4; Sunday- Northeast 8, East Central 1; and Meridian 4, Northeast 2 (championship game).

WEEK OF May 16, 2005

Smith posts solid year for

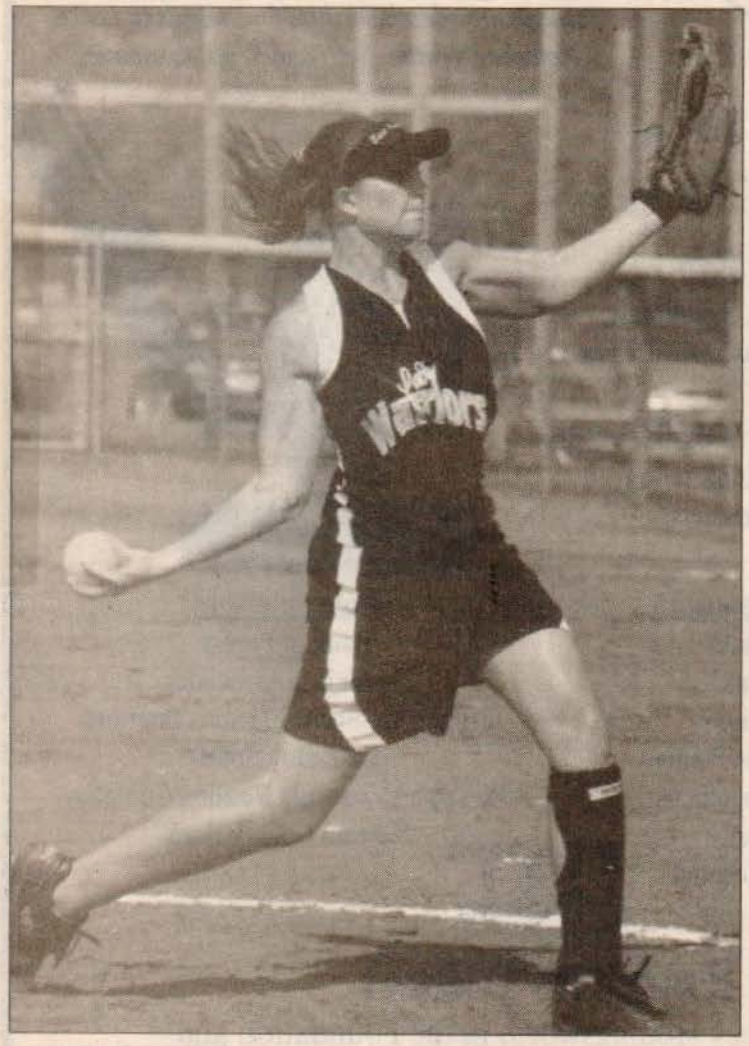
by Marty Stamper

When you look at Marley Smith's stats for the 2005 softball season, you'd think she had been pitching all her life.

In fact, by the time she left the circle for the final time as a sophomore at East Central Community College, she was considered one of the top junior college pitchers in the state.

An 18-1 sophomore record with two saves and a 1.28 ERA backs up that assessment. In 125 1/3 innings, she struck out 100 batters and walked 24.

"You never think you're going to have a pitcher go 18-1," ECCC coach Scott Hill said. "That's hard for anybody to do.



Lady Warrior Ace
Marley Smith of Union went 18-1 in her sophomore year at East Central Community College. The Lady Warriors finished with a 34-5 record. ***Photo by Marty Stamper.***

What helps out Marley so much is her competitive nature. She believes in herself and she's got confidence. You need that mental approach, as well as physical approach as a pitcher.

"Marley definitely knows how to pitch and she's smart enough to understand that she didn't have to strike everybody out, although she struck out her share. She let her defense play behind her and she struck folks out when she needed to.

"She got it done. She's definitely a pitcher in every sense of the word."

Smith didn't play the game of fast-pitch until she entered the seventh grade.

"That was the first year Union played fast-pitch," Smith said. "I was nervous. I was scared. It was all new. The only thing that helped me was the fact that everybody was new to it. We were all on the same level.

"I didn't start until Emily (Casey) graduated, so that was my 10th grade year when I took over."

Developing into a pitcher didn't come easy. Hour after hour was spent trying to become a pitcher and not just a thrower.

"It took throwing pretty much every day," Smith said. "I would throw until I got tired."

The fact that she doesn't tire easily comes as no surprise to Hill.

"She's definitely very conscientious about her approach, not just during the game, but during practice," Hill said. "She just has a very good approach when it comes to preparation."

After a 13-5 senior year at Union, Smith signed with the Lady Warriors of ECCC as a member of Hill's first team. She was 35-12 over her last three years of high school.

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____ DEMOCRAT _____

UNION APPEAL X

NEWTON RECORD _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

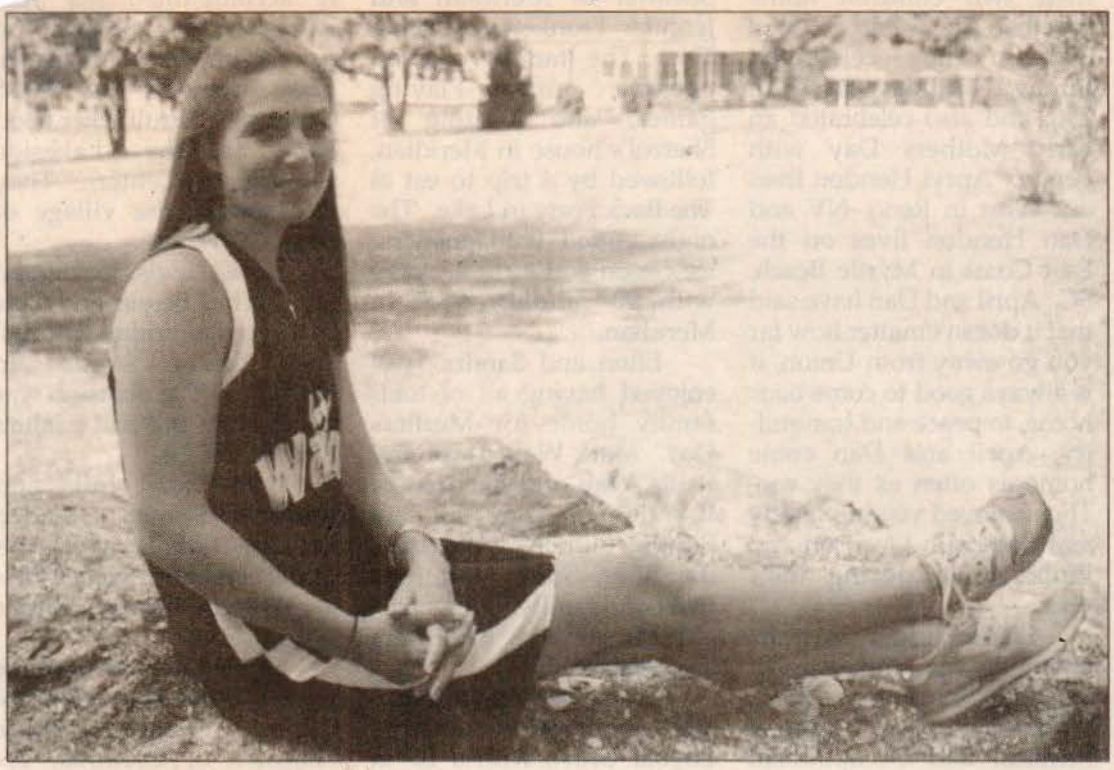
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

May 16, 2005

ECCC Lady Warriors



Solid as a Rock

Marley Smith of Union was 18-1 with a 1.28 ERA during her sophomore year at ECCC. She also had a .379 batting average. ***Photo by Marty Stamper.***

"I knew I would have to do my fair share (of pitching at ECCC)," Smith said. "I knew I was coming pretty much to pitch and not necessarily play anywhere else in the field.

"As a freshman, I did play third when I wasn't pitching.

"Every now and then, I played in the outfield this year, but most of the time I either pitched or watched."

Smith, whose .379 batting average was third highest on the team, found pitching is a lot more enjoyable when there's a strong defense on the field with her.

"It was great. I love having a defense," Smith said. "All I have to do is try to get them to pop up or ground out, the defense would take care of it.

"It took a lot of pressure off of me knowing I had a defense."

Having the likes of 2004 second-team All-American Kristin Chaney, Abby Miller, Allison McDaniel, April Boyd, Lauren White, Erica Hardin, Suzanne Chaney, Joy Cavenaugh, Obreisha Davis, Dominique Mapp, Shelly Ferguson, Kotreece Bender, and Jennifer Smith in the field would give most pitchers confidence.

Smith's 18-1 mark this spring, however, did come as a surprise.

"I never thought that would ever happen. It feels great for it to have happened," Smith said.

The Lady Warriors' 34-5 record was somewhat of a surprise too.

"I knew we would be really good this year. I didn't know how good, but I knew we had a lot of people coming in that could play. It ended up being really good," Smith said.

Whether or not Smith has played her last game remains to be seen.

"I'd like to play, but I don't know yet if I'm going to," Smith said. "Everything is still up in the air."

Smith and the other five sophomores leave ECCC with a two-year record of 60-21.

"I loved my two years here," said Smith, who was recently inducted into the ECCC Hall of Fame, the highest honor ECCC awards its students.

WEEK OF 5-23-05

Lady Warriors come up short on last day of State/Region XXIII tourney

By Marty Stamper
staff writer

DECATUR — East Central Community College's best softball season in school history came to an end with a third-place finish in the MACJC State/Region XXIII Tournament Sunday afternoon following an 8-1 loss to Northeast Mississippi Community College.

The Lady Warriors wrapped up their season with a 34-5 record.

"We don't have anything to be ashamed of," said ECCC head coach Scott Hill. "The girls have had a heck of a year, and I'm really proud of them. We would have liked to have gone on, but that's the way it worked out."

ECCC had several scoring threats during the game, but could only manage one run which came in the top of the fifth inning. Obreisha Davis beat out a two-out bunt and Kristin Chaney followed with a single to left field. Davis scored on a double to the fence in right-center field by Abby Miller.

ECCC stranded nine runners in the game, including seven in scoring position. The Lady Warriors left two runners on base in the fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh innings.

> *We couldn't expect to shut anybody down. They're a good club.*
>
> **Lady Warriors head coach Scott Hill**

"We needed a hit or two here or there," Hill said. "We couldn't expect to shut anybody down. They're a good club, and they had already shown that they can hit the ball. We knew we needed to hit the ball. We hit it, we just didn't hit it at the right time."

Chaney, Davis, Dominique Mapp and Jennifer Smith each had two hits for ECCC.

Marley Smith (18-1) took her first loss of the

See **Lady Warriors**
Page B3

Lady Warriors

From Page B1

season. In two innings, she allowed four runs on four hits. In ECCC's first four games in the tournament, she was 3-0 and had thrown 386 pitches in 29⅔ innings. She had allowed 15 hits and eight walks, while striking out 22.

Northeast took control early, putting up three runs in bottom of the second inning. Amber Hass led off with an infield hit. Kelli Neal followed with a single that scored Hass when the ball skipped by Allison McDaniel in left field. Kelly Yates made it 2-0 with a double, and Maria Goldman's single to center field staked the Lady Tigers to a three-run lead.

Northeast added two more runs in the fourth. Hass hit a leadoff homer to center field. Neal drew a walk and scored on a sacrifice fly by Goldman.

The Lady Tigers answered ECCC's run with a lead-off home ron by Torie Malone in the bottom of the sixth.

Northeast added two more insurance runs in the sixth on a single by Yates, a double by Kim Pannell and two ECCC errors.

The Lady Tigers had nine hits. Yates went 3-for-3 with a double. Hass was 2-for-3. Goldman had two RBIs.

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WEEK OF 5-30-05

Chaney receives more NJCAA

by Marty Stamper

If the National Junior College Athletic Association had such an honor as Miss NJCAA, the organization would do well to give it to Kristin Chaney.

Not many athletes can match Chaney's four-time All-American status on the junior college level.

The 2005 East Central Community College graduate was recently named to the NJCAA Division II Softball All-American first team. She was the only Mississippian to receive that honor.

Throw in second-team All-American awards in softball her freshman year and basketball her sophomore year and you get the feeling the folks at NJCAA headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colo., will recall her name many years from now.

"It's a great honor," said Chaney, who has already enrolled at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, where she will play basketball this winter. She will play both basketball and softball the following year.

"I wasn't shocked," Chaney added. "It was what I was striving for. Anything less than second-team All-American meant I went down (from last year) instead of up and my goal was to go forward instead of backward.

"I was proud of that first-team award. Certainly, I didn't want to go backwards. I either wanted to get second-team or go upwards and fortunately I did.

Kristin Chaney

"The main thing was us winning as a team, but I didn't want to go down."

She was also named Distinguished Academic All-American, which recognizes student-athletes who maintained a minimum 3.8 grade point average for 45 semester hours.

Chaney had already been named to the MACJC all-state and Region 23 softball teams this spring. She helped lead the Lady Warriors to a school-record 34 wins and five losses in 2005.

The Lady Warriors were the MACJC Central Division champions and finished third in the MACJC state/Region 23 Tournament which ECCC hosted in early May.

Chaney, who split time at shortstop and catcher, led the Lady Warriors with a .494 batting average. She had three triples, four doubles, and 12

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5-30-05

All-American honors

RBIs, and also scored 28 runs.

Chaney received second-team All-American honors in 2004 after leading the Lady Diamond Warriors to the Central Division runner-up title and a berth in the state/region tournament en route to a 26-16 record. She batted .423 with four triples, seven doubles and 15 RBIs. She also scored 34 runs.

She was also chosen All-Region 23, All-State, and All-Central Division as a freshman and was named ECCC's Most Valuable Player.

Chaney is also a two-year standout on the Lady Warrior basketball team, earning second-team All-American honors in Division I for the 2004-05 campaign after leading the Lady Warriors to a second place finish in the Region 23 Tournament and a 20-10 record.

She was also named All-Region 23 and all-state and was selected for the MACJC All-Star and All-Region 23 Tournament teams.

She was also selected ECCC's Most Valuable Player and received the team co-captain award this year. Chaney averaged 13 points, four assists, and two steals during the 2004-05 season.

The 2003-04 Lady Warrior basketball squad won the MACJC South Division and state championships, along with the Region 23 Tournament title, and finished runners-up in the consolation bracket of the NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship in Salina, Kan.

That ECCC team set a school record with 31 wins and four losses and was ranked eighth in the final NJCAA poll.

The basketball success cut into Chaney's playing time in softball as the seasons overlapped for a few weeks both years.

"I wish I could have played all the (softball) games with them," Chaney said. "After the successful year we had, we wish we could have gone a little bit further, but we had a good season and can't hold our heads on it."

Awards Chaney received as a freshman included first team all-state and a spot on the All-Region 23 Tournament Team. She was also named ECCC's Newcomer of the Year.

Chaney was also named to the 2005 ECCC Hall of Fame, the highest honor a student can receive at the college.

The Newton County High School graduate is the daughter of Ricky and Brenda Chaney of Little Rock.

The ECCC public information department contributed to this report.

5-30-05

AT EAST CENTRAL

EVERYBODY'S ALL-AMERICAN

EC's Kristen Chaney named All-American by NJCAA

Special to the Record

The list of honors continues to grow for East Central Community College standout student/athlete Kristin Chaney of Little Rock, but her most recent accolade tops them all.

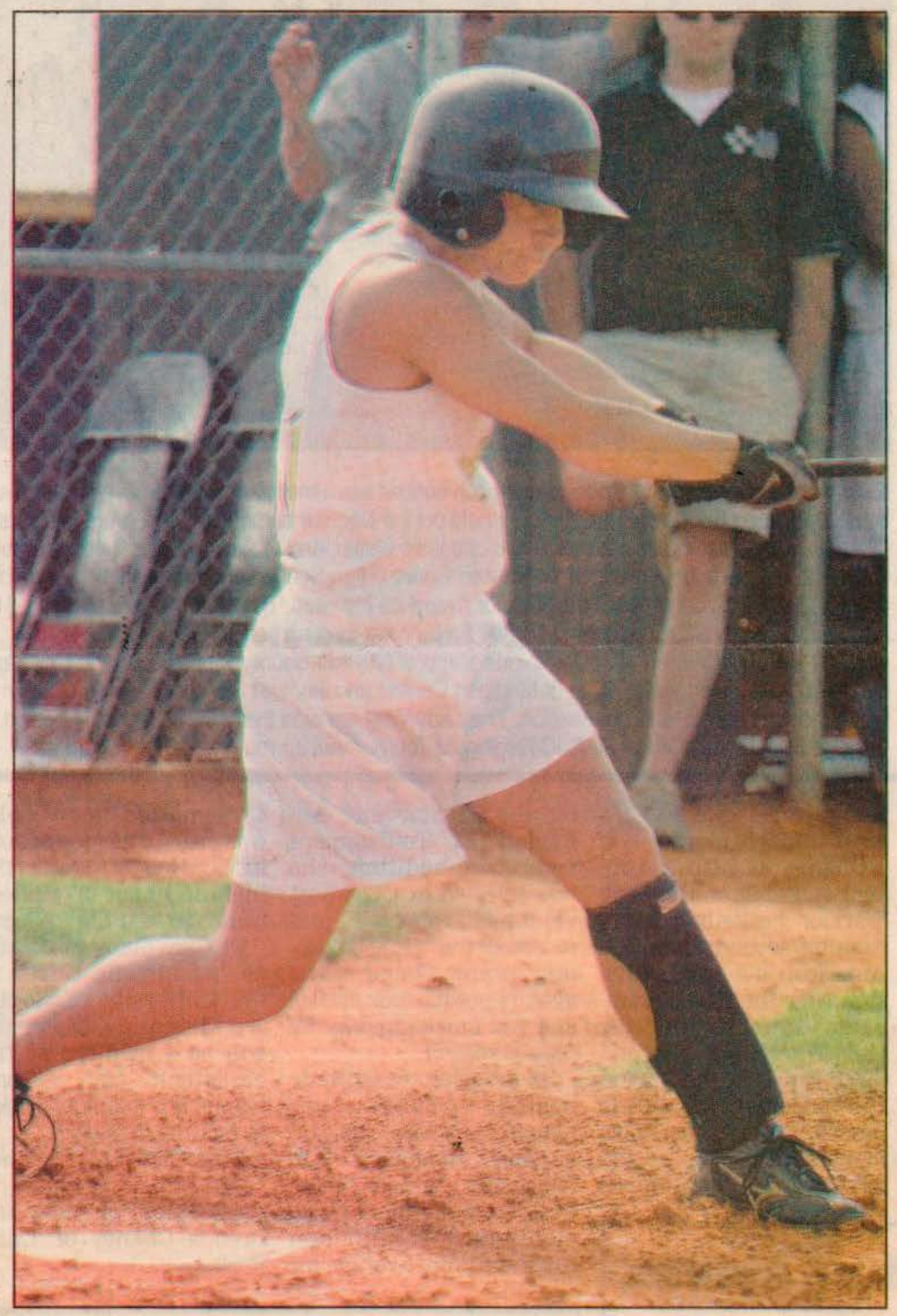
Chaney has been named to the 2005 NJCAA Division II Softball All-American First Team, the only Mississippian to receive such an honor. She was earlier named to the All Region 23, All-State and All-Division teams after leading the Lady Diamond Warriors to a record 34 wins and five losses. The ECCC women won the MACJC Central Division and placed third in the MACJC/Region 23 Tournament hosted by ECCC on the Decatur campus.

Chaney

Chaney, a shortstop/catcher, led the Lady Warriors with a .494 batting average. She had three triples, four doubles and 12 RBIs. She also scored 28 runs.

She received second team All-American honors in 2004 after leading the 2004 Lady Diamond Warriors to the Central Division runner-up title and a berth in the region/state tournament

See **CHANEY**, Page 2B



ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central Community College's Kristen Chaney follows through on a base hit earlier this season against Meridian Community College. After being a second-team selection last season, Chaney was named a first-team All-American this season.

WEEK OF 5-30-05

Chaney

From Page 1B

en route to a 26-14 record. Chaney batted .423 with four triples, seven doubles and 15 RBIs. She also scored 34 runs. In addition to receiving second team All-American honors, Chaney was chosen All-Region 23, All-State and All-Central Division. She was also selected ECCC's most valuable player.

Chaney is also a two-year standout on the Lady Warrior basketball team, earning second team All-American honors in Division I for the 2004-05 campaign after leading the Lady Warriors to a second place finish in the Region 23 Tournament and a 20-10 record. She was also named All-Region 23 and All-State and was tapped for the All-Star and All-Region 23 Tournament teams. In addition, she was selected ECCC's most valuable player and received the team co-captain award. Chaney averaged 13 points, four assists and two steals during the 2004-05 season.

In addition to athletic honors, Chaney was named a 2005 Distinguished Academic All-American, which recognizes student-athletes who maintained a minimum 3.8 grade point average for 45 semester hours. She was also named to the 2005 ECCC Hall of Fame, the highest honor a student can receive at the College.

Chaney plans to continue her athletic career at the University of Southern Mississippi where she will be a member of the basketball and softball teams. She plans to major in health education.

The Newton County High School graduate is the daughter of Ricky and Brenda Chaney of Little Rock.

APPEARED IN:

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ECCC Softball Award Winners

East Central Community College softball team members who received honors at the 2005 Spring Sports Awards Banquet include, from left, Kristin Chaney, most outstanding defensive and offensive player; and Obreisha Davis, Lady Warrior Award co-recipient, both products of Newton County High School; and Marley Smith of Union, most outstanding pitcher and Lady Warrior Award co-recipient. The awards were presented by head coach Scott Hill. Chaney and Smith were also named All-Region 23, all-state and first team all-division. Dominique Mapp of Newton County was selected all-state and first team all-division. Abby Miller of Madison Central and Jennifer Smith of Newton County were chosen second team all-division. The Lady Warriors won the MACJC Central Division title and finished third in the MACJC/Region 23 Tournament en route to a 34-5 record. ***ECCC photo.***

WEEK OF 6-6-05

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WEEK OF Jan 10

100% of East Central nursing class pass

All 17 graduates of the 2004 Practical Nursing Class at East Central Community College in Decatur have passed the NCLEX licensing exam on their first attempt, announced Wayne Eason, dean of career-technical education at ECCC.

Eason said he was "very pleased" to recognize class members and instructors for the accomplishment.

"The PN program is a fast-paced, one-year program requiring great determination and perseverance. To have a 100 percent pass rate on the first write speaks to the excellence of the faculty at East Central Community College and the dedication of the practical nursing students in achieving this success," Eason said.

Members of the 2004 Class include Katie Burrage-Allard, Valerie Nicholson, Genna Pope and April McCurty, all of Philadelphia; Jessica Bricker, Lena; Bonnie Harrell, Keneshia Thomas, Gloria Martin and Celeste Martin, all of Carthage; Vincent McElhenney and Laura Rosar, both of Union; Anne Steptoe, Forest; Shelby Swanner, Bailey; Chris Weaver, Louisville; Ashley White, Newton; and John Johnson and Derek Wright, both of Meridian.

Lori Luke and Kathy Elliott served as class instructors.

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ECCC announces fall semester honor roll

Students named to the 2004 fall semester honor roll, which includes those selected to the President's list, Dean's List and Honorable Mention List, have been announced at East Central Community College in Decatur, according to Donna Luke, Director of Admissions, Records and Research.

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Those named to the President's List, students with a 4.0 grade point average, include the following:

CHOCTAW: Diana Tehauno Hickman;

PHILADELPHIA: Joshua Darrell Benson, Sonya M. Bondie, Cindy Eakes Bryan, Carla Lee Chamblee, Joshua Kent Cumberland, Emily D. Hill, Danny J. Johnson, Priscilla A. Lee, DeAna Evans Morrow, Meagan Marie Myers, Shonda L. Nowell, Jodi Kelley Partridge, Misty D. Phillips, Vivian Seales, Ashley Nicole Tolbert, Brenda Pirkle Tullos, Tanya L. Watkins and Cecily Chantell Zaffar;

UNION: Ashley Skylar Allard, Lauren Elizabeth Beckham, Tonya Shea Belk, Elizabeth A. Bennett, Clancy Lessine Cleveland, Beth A. Crotwell, John Ashley Franklin, Joshua F. Garrett, Lori Annette Horton, Tina Edwards Morgan, Joanna K. Page, James Casey Shackelford, Brant Andrew Winstead and Brooklyn N. Winstead.

DEAN'S LIST

The Dean's List includes the following students who achieved a 3.5 or above grade point average:

CHOCTAW: Nikki Shaun Comby and Warren Lee Isaac;

PHILADELPHIA: Cyril Kane Amos, Heather N. Baine, Tehona Liz Bell, Lindsey Nell Bostick, Kimberly L. Brazzle, Shan Carol Chaney, Rachel Leigh Chappell, Erica A. Clemons, Tywon Rontrice Davis, Benne Joe Dertinger, Kevin Lee Fedrick, Ava Watkins Files, Kimberly Rachelle Fitzhugh, Russell Giambrone, Katie Marie Hancock, Clinton D. Howell, Jennifer Ellen Johnson, Ahlishia Johnson, Marjay Harrison Jones, Jami Gayle Jones, Zachary Tyler Kilpatrick, Theresa Nicole Land, Sylvia D. Majure, Thomi Suzanne McGeisey, Narell Domini Monroe, Paul Martin Moss, Brent Dale Nance, Belenchia J. Payne, Aristotle Duane Phillips, Joshua Pigg, Elizabeth Charlene Prewitt, Brittni Rebecca Ray, Victoria F. Reese, Thomas Dwight Rushing, Jason Sanders, Jana Elizabeth Sansing, Tina Agent Savell, Marissa Unsharell Shannon, Felicia Lynnette Sharp, Tiffany S. Stack, William L. Tingle, Anna Kathryn Waltman and Troy Dale White;

UNION: Rebekah I. Crenshaw, Amy Nicole Dolan, Ashley Dawn Franklin, Marvin Eli Goss, Jeremy Hamm, Clinton M. Harmon, LaSaundra Cherelle Harrison, Aubrie Elise Howell, Shanna Russell Jones, Christopher Elbert Rush, Christy Ann Savell, Marley Ann Smith, Zach M. Staton, Rachael Lathem Sullivan, Natalie Tillman and Jeremy M. Tolbert.

HONORABLE MENTION

The following students were named to the Honorable Mention List and earned a 3.0 or above grade point average:

CHOCTAW: Jamaica Lynn Hernandez and Alan Christopher Martin;

PHILADELPHIA: Jessica Michelle Alford, Stefanie Erin Ammerman, Teawanna Anderson, Jonni Diane Anderson, India Backstrom, James Eric Beckham, Matthew E. Bell, Jonathan T. Booker, Latosha Renee Boswell, Mildred Denise Brazzle, Jamika Zabronzaye Brown, Merle Willis Bryan, Nakecia Renee Buckley, Daniel Lee Cain, Hope Lyman Chadwick, Rachel E. Chapman, Gabriel Lee Chickaway, Katie D. Chunn, Lori Denise Coghlan, Adrienne M. Coleman, Lela Brooke Cumberland, Brian M. Dunn, Theresa R. Edwards, Brian C. Emerson, Justin Matthew Eubanks, Scott Anthony Fieber, David Lynn Fulcher, Richard Dewain Goldman, Holly Wilson Hardy, Lindsay R. Herrington, Lauren Hillman, Lisa Jean Holley, Dominetrix Franchesca Hunter, Lee Wayne Johnson, Brandy Jones, Heather Holley Kelly, Jimmy Clark Kight, Brett Thomas Latimer, Corey Daniel Logan, Robert Justin Lovern, Summer Jade Lovern, Vanessa Marie Manning, Emily Reagan Melton, Benjamin Alan Melton, Ron Nathanael Moore, Rhonda Fox Moore, Alexander Scott Moore, Joel Edsel Morris, Alexis Moneek Nichols, Tegan Renee Pettis, Jessica L. Porter, Paige Lynn Posey, Kirstin DuBose Posey, Tena M. Reynolds, Theresa Frances Savell, Erin Elizabeth Smith, Carl Benjamin Spence, Latisa Shanyell Stewart, Stormy Lynn Taylor, Steven Mark Thomas, Kevin Dwight Tindol, Adrienne Lenore Tubby, Kayla Marie Tullos, Elizabeth A. Tullos, Shawntye Nicole Vaughn, Traci Cornelius Walker, Shannon Danae Wallace, Ashley Coleman White, Joshua P. White, Miranda McDonald Williamson, Tiffany Shonique Willis, Elyse L. Willis and Dustin Jay Wilson;

UNION: Lou Ann Averett, Dana R. Boone, Carol Cooksey Bradley, Madison Grace Brantley, Letha Mae Carter, Jessie Chunn, Melissa Ann Eshee, Luke Benjamin Howell, Kristi M. Keene, Lindsey M. Knight, Staci Jones Mann, Jammie L. Mason, Heather Dickerson Mathis, Andrew Scott McDaniel, Allison Brooke McDaniel, Dustin Clint Mott, James C. Nelson, Quincy Patrick, Hali Elizabeth Rainer, Billy Rouse Reynolds, Carrie Leann Rowzee, Shana Michelle Smith, Lacie L. Stephens, Jannie R. Talley, Treasure L. Vance, Casey Le'Ann Warren, Lauren Elizabeth White, Tabetha D.

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WEEK OF Jan 24

Kristin Bufkin, a freshman dental hygiene major, is a member of BSU and Sigma Sigma Mu Tau. A graduate of Newton County High School, Bufkin was named an American scholar and was selected for *Who's Who Among American High School Students*. She was also the recipient of a national mathematics award, the trigonometry award, the Captain's Award and was selected "Most School Spirit" during Who's Who elections. She is the daughter of Gary and Terry Bufkin of Decatur.

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WEEK OF Jan 24

Culpepper Joins ECCC Warrior Corps

Stephanie Culpepper of Forest is among East Central Community College students selected to serve as a member of the Warrior Corps, an elite group that assists in recruiting and serves as hosts for college events and activities on the Decatur campus.

Culpepper

Culpepper, a sophomore nursing major, is a member of the Wall O' Sound band, color guard and The Tom-Tom staff.

She is a graduate of Scott Central High School where she was a member of Health Occupation Students of America. She is the daughter of Harry and Janet Culpepper of Forest.

ECCC staff members Lanette Hanna, Christi Gregory and Michael Alexander serve as Warrior Corps sponsors.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF Jan 24

Patterson, Willis join ECCC Warrior Corps

Shane Patterson and Tiffany Shonique Willis, both of Philadelphia, are among East Central Community College students selected to serve as a member of the Warrior Corps, an elite group that assists in recruiting and serves as hosts for college events and activities on the Decatur campus.

Patterson, a sophomore secondary education major, is a graduate of Neshoba Central High School, where he was selected Mr. NCHS and served as student body president. He was also Beta Club treasurer.

Shane Patterson

He is the son of Sherlon and Terri Patterson of Philadelphia.

Willis, a freshman business administration major, is a member of Phi Beta Lambda and the gospel choir.

She is a graduate of Philadelphia High School, where her honors include the I Dare You Award, Rotary Student of the Month, homecoming queen and Miss Black Neshoba County.

Tiffany Shonique Willis

Tiffany is the daughter of Eddie and Gloria Willis of Philadelphia.

ECCC staff members Lanette Hanna, Christi Gregory and Michael Alexander serve as Warrior Corps sponsors.

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WEEK OF Jan 24

A freshman, Madison Brantley, is a member of the Centralettes, the dance line for the Warrior Wall O' Sound marching band. She is a graduate of Union High School, where she was a member of the 2003 state championship softball team. She was also named to the All-State team. In addition, she was selected wittiest and received Plain Seal awards for three years. She is the daughter of Don and Jan Brantley of Union.

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WEEK OF Jan 24

Clancy Cleveland, a freshman liberal arts major, is treasurer of the freshman class and a member of the tennis team, Centralettes and Baptist Student Union. She was also elected freshman homecoming maid. She is a graduate of Union High School, where she named Salutatorian and was selected for Hall of Fame.Other honors she received include Miss UHS, homecoming queen, friendliest and most courteous. She is the daughter of Jerry and Cindy Cleveland of Union.

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WEEK OF Jan 24

Lindsay Walker, a freshman physical therapy major, is a member of the Lady Warrior fast pitch softball team, Baptist Student Union and Sigma Sigma Mu Tau. She is a graduate of Union High School, where she was selected for Hall of Fame, student council and was a Girls State delegate. Additional honors she received include best personality, class favorite and Most Beautiful 2003. She is the daughter of Faye Dean and Curtis Walker.

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WEEK OF March 21

Cavenaugh Joins Warrior Corps...

Joy Cavenaugh of Chunky is among East Central Community College students selected to serve as a member of the Warrior Corps, an elite group that assists in recruiting and serves as hosts for college events and activities on the Decatur campus. Cavenaugh, a freshman liberal arts major, is vice president of the freshman class and is a member of the Lady Warrior softball team. Cavenaugh is a graduate of Newton County High School where she served as senior class president and student council secretary. She was also selected homecoming queen and Miss NCHS. She is the daughter of Rick and Linda Cavenaugh of Chunky.

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WEEK OF Jan 24

Taylor Nichols, a freshman liberal arts major, is a member of the ECCC soccer team, Wesley Foundation and the Baptist Student Union's drama team.He is a graduate of Newton County High School, where he was a member of the football and soccer teams. Honors he received include Mr. NCHS, Most Likely To Succeed, World History award, All-Division soccer and honorable mention All-Division football. He is the son of Ken and Bonnie Nichols of Decatur.

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WEEK OF Jan 24

Victoria Goodman, a freshman biology major, is a member of the gospel choir and *The Tom-Tom* newspaper staff. She is a graduate of Holly Springs High School, where she received the Chamber of Commerce Award presented by Lt. Governor Amy Tuck. She is the daughter of Shannon Goodman-Hill and Larry Hill of Decatur.

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WEEK OF Jan 24

Beth Crotwell, a freshman physical therapy major, is a member of the *Wo-He-Lo* annual staff and Sigma Sigma Mu Tau. She is a graduate of Union High School, where she was editor of the annual staff and a Girls' State delegate. She was also a three-year recipient of the Yellow Jacket Award. She is the daughter of James and Denise Crotwell of Union.

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

Coleman

Edward

Gregory

Jones

Price

Stroud

Several locals join Warrior Corps at ECCC

From press and staff reports

6 Winston Countians among the East Central Community College students selected to serve as a member of the Warrior Corps, an elite group that assists in recruiting and serves as hosts for college events and activities on the Decatur campus.

Deidre Coleman of Louisville was one of the selectees.

Coleman, a freshman nursing major, is a member of Baptist Student Union.

An honor graduate of Winston Academy, Coleman received the Science Merit Award and was named to Whoís Who Among American High School Students.

She is the daughter of Mike and Darlene Coleman of Louisville.

Keith Edwards of Louisville is also among East Central Community College students selected to serve as a member of the Warrior Corps, an elite group that assists in recruiting and serves as hosts for college events and activities on the Decatur campus.

Edwards, a freshman liberal arts major, is a member of the Warrior baseball team.

He is an honor graduate of Louisville High School, where he was named to the Hall of Fame, selected Mr. LHS, and earned the citizenship award.

Keith is the son of Bobby and Linda Edwards of Louisville.

Kevin Gregory of Nanih Waiya is among East Central Community College students selected to serve as a member of the Warrior Corps, an elite group that assists in recruiting and serves as hosts for college events and activities on the Decatur campus.

Gregory, a freshman liberal arts major, is a student assistant on the Warrior baseball team and is involved in numerous intramural sports at ECCC.

A graduate of Nanih Waiya High School, Gregory was a four- year Honor Roll member, received the DAR Award, and was selected to attend Boys' State.

He is the son of Terry and Marsha Gregory of Nanih Waiya.

Jaimee Jones of Louisville is among East Central Community College students selected to serve as a member of the Warrior Corps, an elite group that assists in recruiting and serves as hosts for college events and activities on the Decatur campus.

Jones, a freshman liberal arts major, is secretary of the freshman class and is a member of the Baptist Student Unionís Interpretive Movement Team.

She is also a member of the Environmental Club, Sigma Sigma Mu Tau, and serves as a student assistant for the Lady Warrior basketball team.

Jones is a graduate of Nanih Waiya Attendance Center where she was selected Valedictorian, senior class president, named to the Hall of Fame, co-editor of the annual, and Beta Club treasurer. She was named a Wendyís Heisman State Finalist, received the Lindy Cullahan scholarship, and was selected homecoming queen and freshman and junior maid.

She is the daughter of Glen and Renee Jones of Louisville.

Anna Price of Louisville is among East Central Community College students selected to serve as a member of the Warrior Corps, an elite group that assists in recruiting and serves as hosts for college events and activities on the Decatur campus.

Price, a sophomore physical therapy major, is a member of the tennis team, Baptist Student Union and the Wesley Foundation.

She is a graduate of Grace Christian School, where she served as captain of the softball and volleyball teams and was a recipient of softball and volleyball offensive and defensive awards.

She is the daughter of Cecil and Melanie Price of Louisville.

Ronda Stroud of Louisville is an [illegible] Central [illegible] C[illegible] College student[illegible] to serve as a mem[illegible] Warrior Corps, [illegible] group that a[illegible] recruiting and [illegible] hosts for colleg[illegible] and activities [illegible] Decatur campus.

Stroud, a sopho[illegible] ondary educati[illegible] with an emphasi[illegible] gy, is a membe[illegible] Baptist Studen[illegible] Wall Of Sound [illegible] nis team, envir[illegible] club and ECCC P[illegible]

She is an honors [illegible] of Louisville Hig[illegible] where she was [illegible] Miss LHS and ho[illegible] queen. She wa[illegible] member of the Be[illegible]

She is the da[illegible] Ron and Gail S[illegible] Louisville.

East Central Co[illegible] College staff [illegible] Lanette Hanna, [illegible] Gregory and [illegible] Alexander serve a[illegible] Corps sponsors.

WEEK OF Jan 24

Area Residents Complete ECCC Commercial Truck Driving Program

Looking forward to successfully completing East Central Community College's commercial truck driving program are the above participants, shown with program instructors. Front row, from left are Teresa Clemons of Philadelphia, Terri Estes of Newton, Jerry Brantley (recent graduate) of Forest and Lee Fikes of Vossburg. Back row, from left, are Pete Copes, instructor; Joe Lee of Forest, Alex Langdon of Union, Lonnie Ward of Philadelphia and Michael Reeves, instructor. Not pictured is evening class instructor Sammy Holdiness. For more information about the eight-week program contact Chris Clark, workforce development coordinator, ECCC Workforce Development Center, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone 635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 245.

APPEARED IN:

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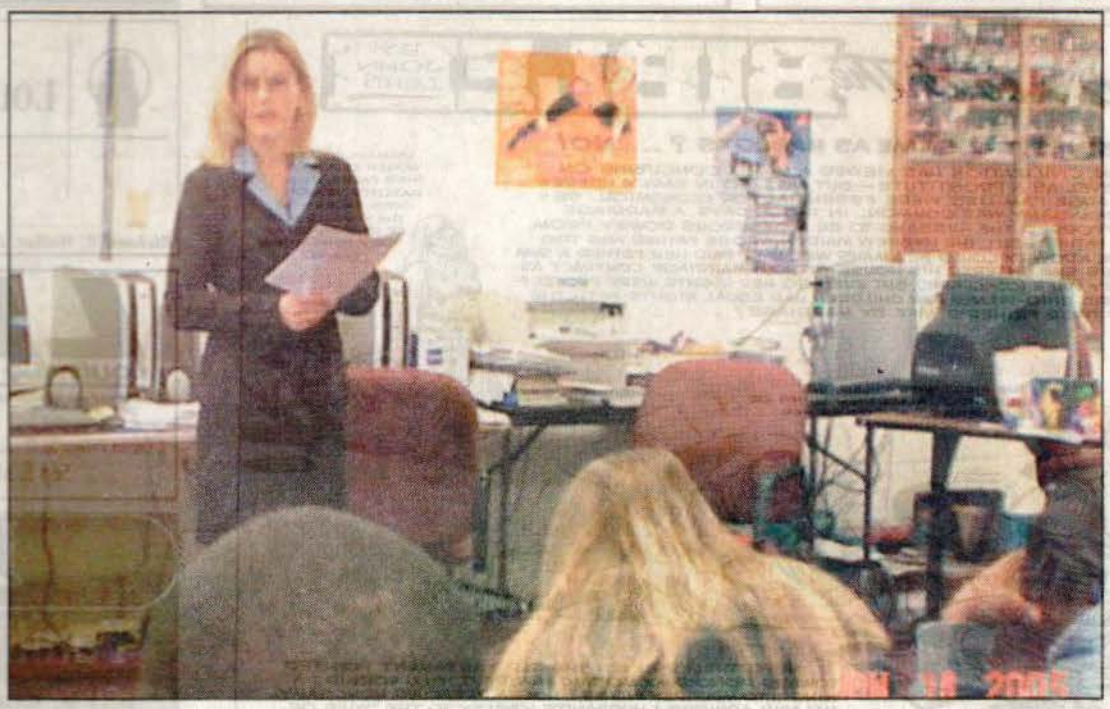
WEEK OF Jan 24

Succeeding at ECCC

Local students get glimpse of future

Fran Warmack
ECCC PBL
Chapter



(Above) Fran Warmack, a non-traditional student at East Central Community Collegspeaks to the class.

East Central Community College's Phi Beta Lambda Chapter recently visited Mrs. Massey and Mrs. Black's classes at the Winston-Louisville Vocational Technical Center. Students participated in a work-shop that followed two students that graduated at the same time, yet took different paths.

One went striaght into the work-force and the other went straight to college. .

The study follows the students lives for a period of ten years tracking income, as well as expenses. Fran Warmack, a non-traditional student at East Central Community College spoke with the students about the responsibilities of everyday life, such as rent, car payments, groceries, utilities, and other expenses that most people obtain in their adult lives. The study also detailed the two students yearly savings and budgeting information. The classes actively participated by completeing surveys before and after the class, and some were enlightened with the differences between their conceptions of life and reality.

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WEEK OF Feb. 7

EC PHOTO

Speak to ECCC Student Education Association: Joyce Luke (second from left), Newton County Elementary School media specialist, and Leah Walker (third from left), Newton County Elementary School third grade teacher, spoke to members of the East Central Community College Student Education Association about the teaching profession. Also pictured are SEA members Kristen Thomas (left) of Decatur and Darlene Moore (right) of Forest. Lucille Wood serves as sponsor.

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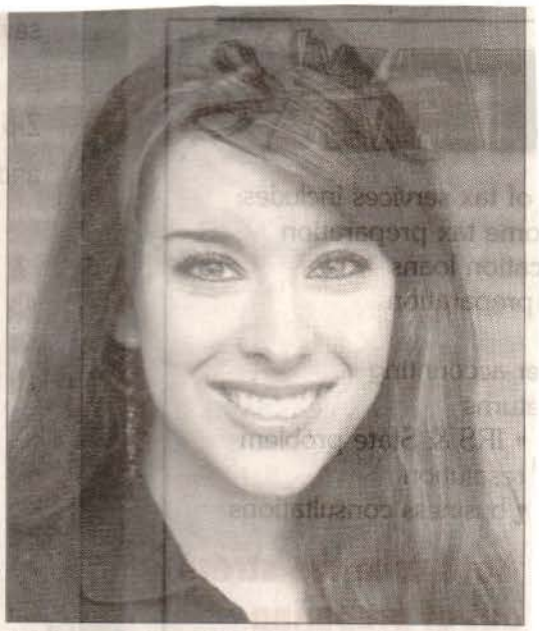
WEEK OF Feb 14



Mayes Joins ECCC Warrior Corps

Misty Leigh Mayes of Newton has joined the East Central Community College Warrior Corps. They serve as hosts for college events and assist in recruiting. Mayes, a frshman marketing major, is a graduate of Newton County Academy where she was elected Most Beautiful. She is the daughter of Billy and Jill Mayes.

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WEEK OF Feb 14

Harris Joins ECCC Warrior Corps

Haley Brooke Harris of Decatur has joined the East Central Community College Warrior Corps. They serve as hosts for college events and assist in recruiting. Harris, a frshman nursing major, is a graduate of Newton County High School where she served as a member of the homecoming court. She is the daughter of Ronnie and Paula Harris

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WEEK OF Feb/14

ECCC Industrial Maintenance Program participants

These Philadelphia residents are participating in an Industrial Maintenance Apprentice Program held at the Productivity Enhancement Lab at the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Vocational-Technical Center. Sponsored by East Central Community College in Decatur, the five-level program combines classroom instruction and "hands-on" skills demonstrations. Completion of each level leads to a portable certification with the NCCER in Gainesville, Fla. Seated from left are Steven Snuggs, Ottis Skinner, Sara Winham and Kevin Willis. Standing from left are Wayne Williams, Donnie Chunn, Eric Copeland and Jerrial Fryery. Also pictured is class instructor Blake Warren, who said students do not need to have specific knowledge of experience to join the class, just "a desire to develop technical skills for maintaining technical environments." For more information contact Blake Warren, Ph 656-8642, bwarren@eccc.edu or Chris Clark, Ph 635-2111, ext. 245, clark@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Feb 14

Receive top honors in 'Job Demonstration A' competition

These students received top honors in the "Job Demonstration A" competition in the Mississippi SkillsUSA Championships for District III held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Approximately 1500 area students participated in the annual event. Pictured are (from left) Tim Pegues, first place, McKellar Technology Center; Kristi Pilgrim, second, Philadelphia-Neshoba County Vocational-Technical Center; and Casey Smith, third, Jones County Vocational-Technical Center. First through third place winners advance to state competition. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Feb 14

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC ART SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

These students recently received art scholarships to continue their education at East Central Community College in Decatur. Recipients of art service scholarships, valued at $350 (1/2 tuition) per semester, include (from left) Sandy Guess of Union and Megan Harrell of Forest. Those receiving academic art scholarships, valued at $700 (full tuition) per semester, include (third from left) Chris Shuler of Harperville and Even Snell of Lake. Also pictured is art instructor Bruce Guraedy.

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WEEK OF Feb 21

Receive Phi Theta Kappa Regional Awards

Members of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college, at East Central Community College in Decatur recently attended the Mississippi/Louisiana Regional Convention at Southwest Mississippi Community College in Summit, where they received various honors and awards. Theta Xi received recognition as a five-star chapter and also received the Service Hallmark Award. In addition, chapter president Courtnee Graham (second from left) of Preston was named to the Order of the Golden Key. Pictured are (from left) advisor Debbie Boyd, chapter officers Graham, Rachel Edwards of Noxapater, Faith Hessenius of Louisville, Ginger Vance of Decatur and Dru Fulton of Louisville; and advisor Sylvia Wright. Not pictured are officers Ashley Nicholson of Chunky and Shana Smith of Union. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Feb 21

Ferguson, Graham receive Phi Theta Kappa Awards

Christy Ferguson (left) of Philadelphia, business technology instructor and former advisor for Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college, at East Central Community College in Decatur, and Courtnee Graham (right) of Preston, chapter president, received special recognition during the annual Mississippi/Louisiana Regional Convention held recently at Southwest Mississippi Community College in Summit. Ferguson was honored for service on the Regional Advisory Committee from 2001-2004 and Graham was named to the Order of the Golden Key. In addition, Theta Xi received recognition as a five-star chapter and also received the Service Hallmark Award. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Feb 21

Wolfe Receives ECCC Scholarship

DECATUR--Kyle Wolfe, a student at the Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center, received a $300 per semester scholarship to East Central Community College after winning first place honors in the Residential Wiring competition during the annual District III SkillsUSA Championships held on the Decatur campus. At left is John Everett, ECCC SkillsUSA advisor, who presented the scholarship. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Feb 21

McBeth gets EC scholarship

Shawn McBeth, a student at the Leake County Vocational-Technical Center in Carthage, received a $300 per semester scholarship to East Central Community College after winning first place honors in the Automotive Technology competition during the annual District III SkillsUSA Championships held on the Decatur campus. At left is John Everett, ECCC SkillsUSA advisor, who presented the scholarship.

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WEEK OF Feb 21

EC scholarship recipient

Joshua Shumaker, a student at the Leake County Vocational-Technical Center, received a $300 per semester scholarship to East Central Community College after winning first place honors in the Carpentry competition during the annual District III SkillsUSA Championships held on the Decatur campus. At left is John Everett, ECCC SkillsUSA advisor, who presented the scholarship.

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WEEK OF Feb 28

Area Students Tapped for ECCC Honor Society... Above are students from Newton County who were inducted into East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, during a ceremony held recently in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. First row, from left, are Courtney Averett, Conehatta; Marlo Hollingsworth, Newton; Kristin Bufkin, Decatur; Lindsey Walker, Union; and Evelyn Hill Lindsey and Amanda Therrien, both of Newton. Second row, from left, are Amanda McMillan and Kelly Evans, both of Newton; Kasey Hall, Lawrence; Laine Dickson, Newton; and Micah Lanier, Little Rock. Third row, from left, are Lindsey Alexander, Little Rock; Megan Pace, Conehatta; Alisha Hitt, Little Rock; Monickala Ellis, Newton; Casey Shackelford, Union; and Daniel Marshall, Decatur. Top row, from left, are Tyler Hagan and Richard Burton, both of Little Rock; Kurt Nelson, Newton; Clancy Cleveland, Union; and Joy Cavenaugh, Chunky. Membership in Phi Theta Kappa is by membership only, with inductees required to have a minimum 3.5 grade point average earned as a full-time student in addition to having an overall 3.5 GPA. ECCC faculty members Debbie Boyd of Meridian and Sylvia Wright of Louisville serve as Theta Xi advisers. *(EC Photo)*

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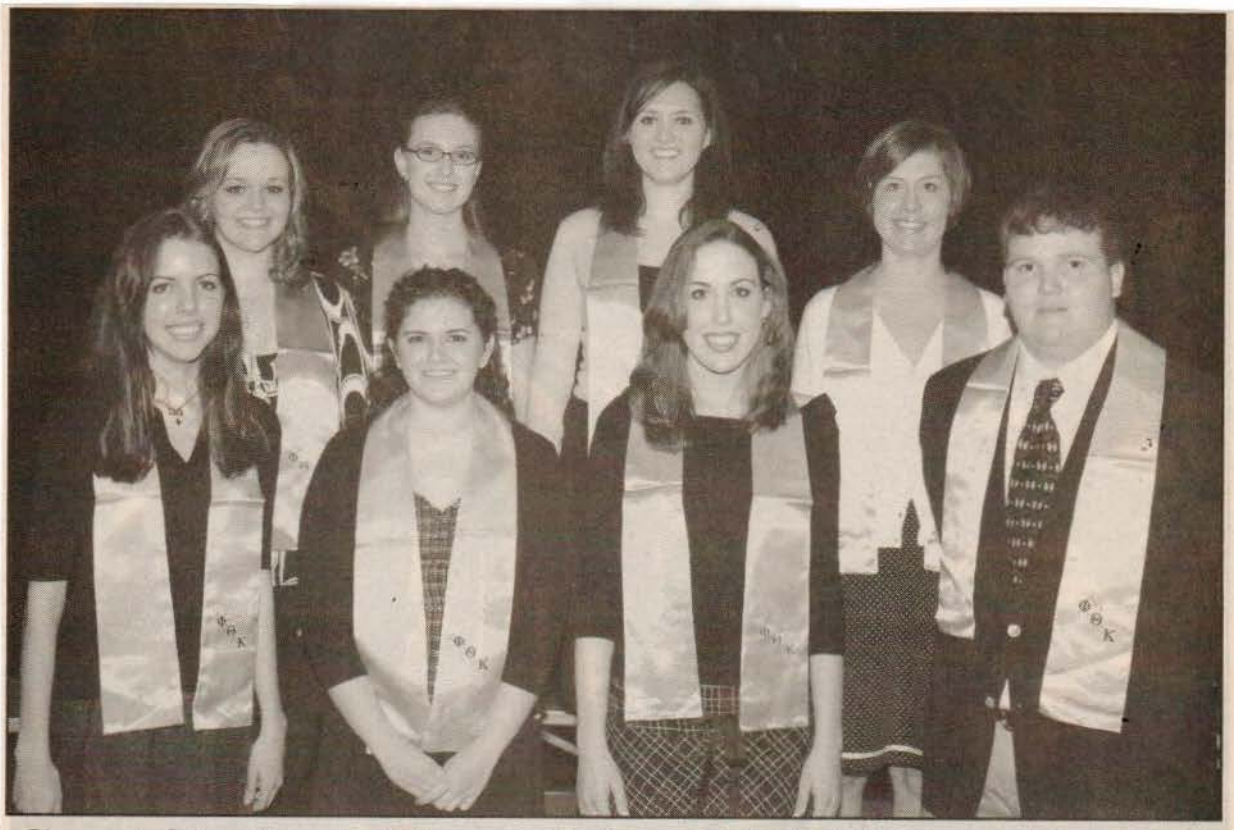

Scott Students Tapped for ECCC Honor Society

Above are Scott County students who were inducted into East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, during a ceremony held recently in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. First row, from left, are Megan Slay and Elizabeth Puckett, both of Forest; and Kathryn Barney and Clay Thrash, both of Sebastopol. Back row, from left, are Kristie Usry and Even Snell, both of Lake; Mollie Cieglo, Forest; and Tonya Johnson, Sebastopol. Membership in Phi Theta Kappa is by invitation only, with inductees required to have a minimum 3.5 grade point average earned as a full-time student in addition to having an overall 3.5 GPA. ECCC faculty members Debbie Boyd of Meridian and Sylvia Wright of Louisville serve as Theta Xi advisers. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Feb28

Phi Theta Kappa inductees

Above are Leake County students who were inducted into East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, during a ceremony held recently in the Vickers Fine Arts center on the Decatur campus. First row, from left, are Jodie Rawson, Crystal Tull and JoAnna Daugherty, all of Carthage, second row, from left, are Loretta Gates of Walnut Grove, Alexa Carr of Thomastown and Beth Faulkner of Carthage. Membership in Phi Theta Kappa is by membership only, with inductees required to have a minimum 3.5 grade point average earned as a full-time student in addition to having an overall 3.5 GPA. ECCC faculty members Debbie Boyd of Meridian and Sylvia Wright of Louisville serve as Theta Xi advisers.

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WEEK OF Feb 28

ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS

Alfredo Hernandez (center) and Mitch Rogers (right), students at the Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center, each received a $300 per semester scholarship to ECCC after winning first place honors in the Masonry competition during the annual District III SkillsUSA Championships held on the Decatur campus. At left is John Everett, ECCC SkillsUSA advisor, who presented the scholarship.

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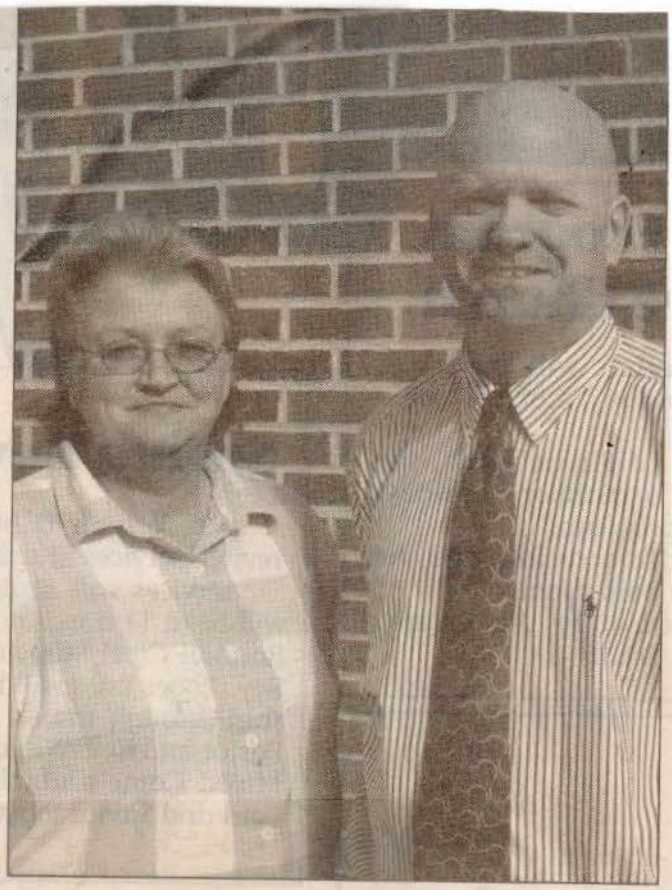
WEEK OF Feb 28

Sheila Hudson (left) of Sebastopol was recently presented a nontraditional student scholarship to continue her studies at East Central Community College in Decatur. Hudson, shown with Joe Killens, Vice President for Student Services, is a 49-year-old second semester freshman majoring in pre-nursing. She is also a Dean's List Scholar, having earned a 3.5 grade point average for the fall term. She is married to Nick Hudson and they have three grown children and five grandchildren. Nontraditional student tuition scholarships are available to qualified Mississippi residents, age 23 or older at the time of initial enrollment, who enroll fulltime at ECCC on the Decatur campus. Scholarships are available for three consecutive semesters following the first 12 semester hours earned as either a part-time or full-time student at East Central.



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WEEK OF March 7

EC students tapped for Phi Theta Kappa

Special to The Record

Sixty-six East Central Community College students were welcomed into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, during the spring semester induction ceremony held in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus.

The ceremony also included the presentation of the annual Shelby Harris Alumni Award, named in memory of the longtime Theta Xi adviser and ECCC math instructor. Melissa Thrash Carleton (ECCC Class of 1988) of Newton was selected the 2005 recipient She and her husband Robert reside in Newton.

Ann Burkes, retired ECCC librarian and longtime Theta Xi adviser who, along with Dr. Harris, organized and chartered the Theta Xi Alumni Association, also presented remarks to the new inductees from Phi Theta Kappa International Headquarters, located in Jackson.

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and Vice President for Instruction Dr. Lavinia Sparkman also provided remarks.

New members of the prestigious honor society and their hometowns include: Courtney Averett and Megan Pace, both of Conehatta; Marlo Hollingsworth, Evelyn Hill Lindsey, Amanda Therrien, Amanda McMillan, Laine Dickson, Monickala Ellis and Kurt Nelson, all of Newton; Kristin Bufkin, and Daniel Marshall, both of Decatur; Kasey Hall, Lawrence; Micah Lanier, Alisha Hitt, Tyler Hagan and Richard Burton, all of Little Rock; Lindsey Walker, Casey Shackelford and Clancy Cleveland, all of Union; and Joy Cavenaugh, Chunky.

EC PHOTO

Joshua Benson of Philadelphia was among ECCC students inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges.

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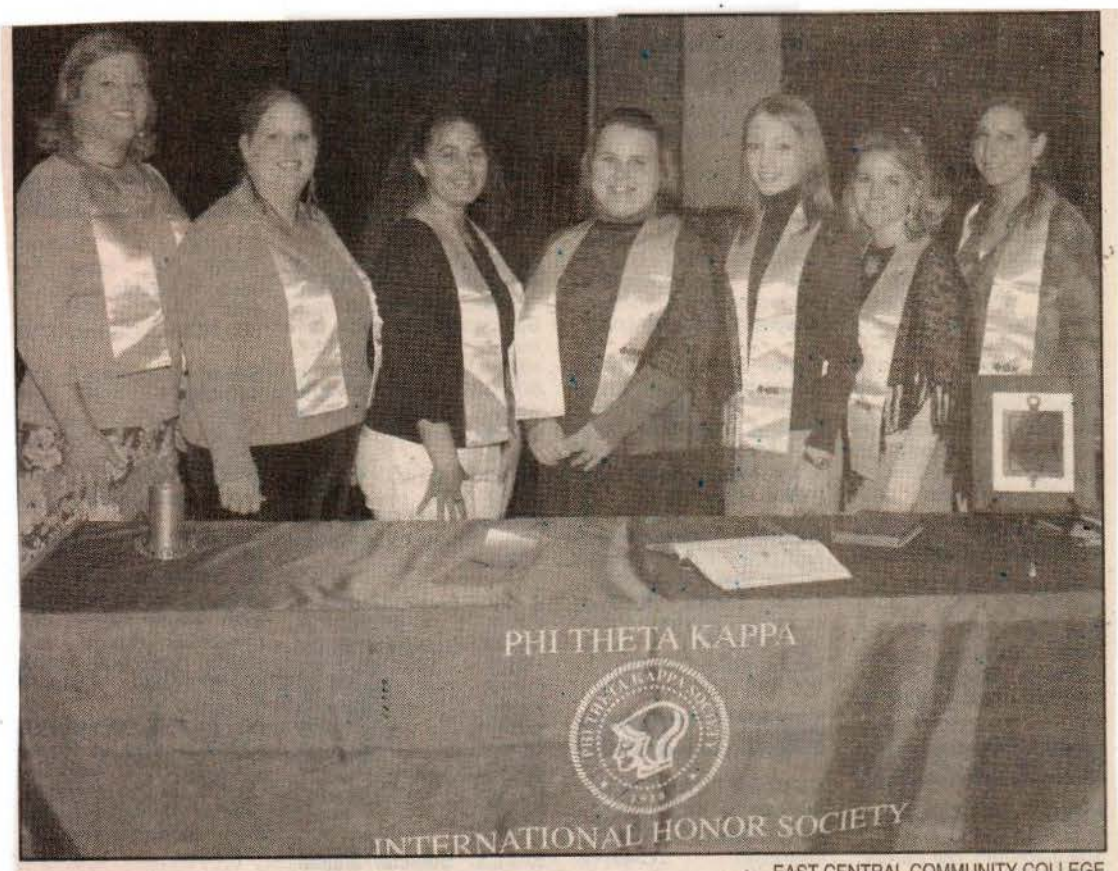

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ECCC PHI THETA KAPPA OFFICERS: These East Central Community College students serve as officers of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges. From left are Courtnee Graham of Preston, president; Faith Hessenius of Louisville, vice president for scholarship; Rachel Edwards of Noxapater, vice president for fellowship; Ginger Vance of Decatur, vice president for service; Shana Smith of Union, vice president for leadership; Ashley Nicholson of Chunky, secretary; and Dru Fulton of Louisville, historian. Advisers are faculty members Debbie Boyd of Meridian and Sylvia Wright of Louisville.

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WEEK OF March 7

Body, Ealy Named Mr., Miss ECCC

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Todd Body and Amy Ealy, both of Forest, were recently elected Mr. and Miss East Central Community College.

A psychology major, Body is the son of Shauranda Body and Ssgt. Terry J. Young of Forest. He was selected to Who's Who Among American Community/Junior College Students and received a National Junior College Minority Student award. He was selected Most Handsome his freshman year.

Body serves as secretary of the Warrior Corps, a group of students who assist in recruiting, and he is a member of the Concert Choir and the ECCC cheerleading squad. Honors he has received include the Mable Moore Carr Endowed Scholarship, the Wal-Mart Scholarship and an ACT Scholarship. A graduate of Forest High School, Body was selected Mr. FHS and Most Handsome. He is also a National Honor Roll student and was selected to Who's Who Among American High School Students. In addition, he participated on the track, baseball and football teams.

Ealy, also a psychology major, is the daughter of Alexander and Willie Ealy of Forest. A Dean's List Scholar, Ealy serves as secretary of the Student Body Association and was selected a class favorite her freshman year. She was also selected a homecoming maid her freshman and sophomore years. She is a member of the Centralettes, the danceline for the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band, Warrior Corps, Gospel Choir, ECCC Players, Mu Alpha Theta and Phi Theta Kappa. She also participates in "The Way," a ministry team sponsored by the Baptist Student Union. Mr. and Miss ECCC will be featured in the 2005 edition of the College yearbook, the Wo-He-Lo.

ECCC PHOTO

Todd Body and Amy Ealy, both of Forest, were recently elected Mr. and Miss East Central Community College.

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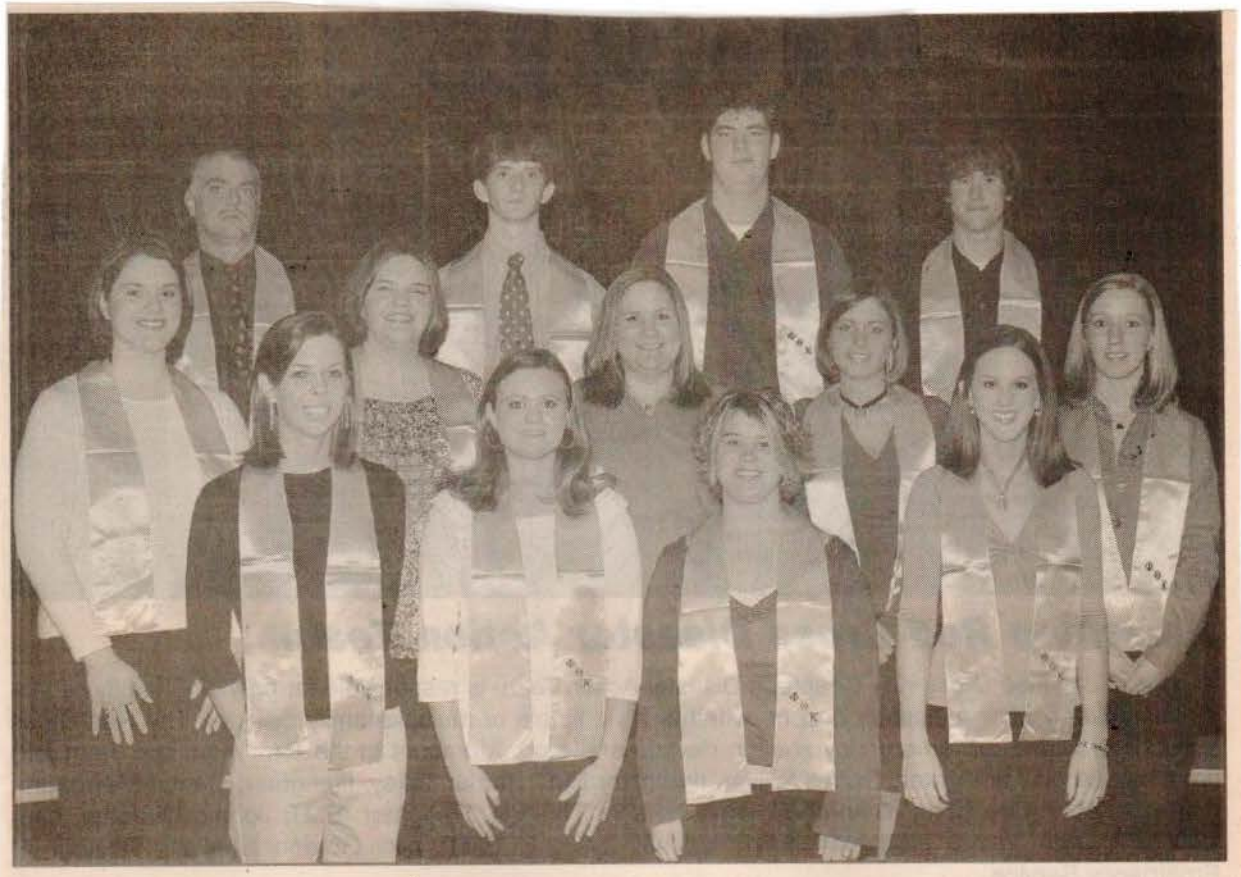

Neshoba students tapped for ECCC honor society

Above are Neshoba County students who were inducted into East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, during a ceremony held recently in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. First row, from left, are Heather Bain, Meagan Myers, Kimberly Fitzhugh and Jana Sansing, all of Philadelphia. Second row, from left, are Lauren Beckham, Rebekah Crenshaw and Beth Crotwell, all of Union; and Flame Reese and Ashley Tolbert, both of Philadelphia. Top row, from left, are Scott Duett, Zach Kilpatrick, Joshua Benson and Clinton Howell, all of Philadelphia. Membership in Phi Theta Kappa is by invitation only, with inductees required to have a minimum 3.5 grade point average earned as a full-time student in addition to having an overall 3.5 GPA. ECCC faculty members Debbie Boyd of Meridian and Sylvia Wright of Louisville serve as Theta Xi advisers. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF March 14

NEWS BRIEFS

Morton teen charged with felony simple assault

MORTON—A 17-year-old male arrested and charged with pointing a weapon at elementary children earlier this month remains out of jail on $25,000 bond, Police Chief Jimmy Rogers said.

Miguez Angel Dominguez, of 144 Northwood Dr., Morton, is charged with felony simple assault after he allegedly pointed a gun at a group of children during afternoon recess on March 4 at Morton Elementary School

According to police notes, the children said they saw Dominguez drinking beer before he went into a residence and returned with the weapon, identified as a .177 caliber pistol. The children reported that Dominguez then aimed the gun at the group.

The children alerted teachers to the incident, and school administrators contacted

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NEWTON RECORD ✓

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CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF March 14

Claims Docket
February-05

Claim Number	Vendor Name	Invoice Amount
	Fund 001	
339	GENERAL C	90.95
340	RICHARD PR	"5,439.96"
341	FUELMAN OI	15.00
342	XEROX CORI	671.25
343	RICHARD PR	"2,986.38"
344	BILL H WILBI	"99,006.29"
345	PAYROLL CLI	312.75
346	STATE TAX C	160.00
347	HOTEL CHES	"95,389.68"
348	PAYROLL CLE	20.03
349	PAYROLL CLE	"66,686.10"
350	PAYROLL CLE	74.00
351	U.S. POST OI	195.00
352	AILEEN GRIS	50.00
353	AMANDA M M	75.00
354	ANITA WEBB	94.35
355	"ANN A. GILMI	242.34
356	"BANCROFT F	"1,450.00"
357	BANKERS CA	"1,317.62"
358	BELLSOUTH (	"2,098.32"
359	BELLSOUTH	61.20
360	BEVERLY G L	80.00
361	BILL H. WILBO	625.00
362	BRANTLEY EL	24.41
363	BUILDERS HA	48.60
364	BRUCE MCMII	235.00
365	IAAO SCHOOL	27.50
366	CENTRAL ELE	"11,426.17"
367	CENTRAL MS	156.24
368	"CHRISTOPHE	3.67
369	CINGULAR SO	230.21
370	CINGULAR SO	40.50
371	CINTAS FIRST	"1,601.89"
372	CITY OF FORE	342.15
373	CITY OF FORE	468.91
374	CITY OF FORE	121.98
	CITY OF FORE	20.09
	CITY OF FORE	34.55
	CITY OF MORT	32.55
	COLONIAL LIFE	"1,030.00"
	COUNTY LIVES	208.65
	DECATUR TELE	770.00
	"DELTA COMPU	690.68
	DELTACOM	505.66
	DEMENT PRINT	40.00
	DERMATOPATH	"2,105.53"
	DIXIE PRINT	50.00
	DOLLIE JONES	29.90
	DURA QUIP MF	

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER X

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES X

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

IMPACT

CARTHAGINIAN

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF March 28

Herring, Stinson named All-State Band Members at ECCC

East Central Community College band members Claire Stinson (left) of Clarkdale and Daniel Herring of Morton were named to the Mississippi Community College Honor Band following recent auditions. They joined other outstanding community/junior bandsmen for a concert performance held at the University of Mississippi. Stinson is a clarinetist and Herring plays trumpet. Thomas W. Carson serves as ECCC Director of Bands.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF March 28

'resent Spring Concert~ The Collegians of East Central Community College will pre-ent their spring campus concert at 8 p.m. Monday, April 4 in Huff Auditorium in)ecatur. The talented rock 'n' roll group will perform hits by Three Doors Down, 'antasia, Kelly Clarkson and other popular artists. There is no charge for admission. Group members include (seated from left) vocalists Carmelita Naylor of Meridian, Kailey Johnson of Philadelpia, Luke Howell of Decatur, Leigh Ann Quick of Carthage ınd Victoria Loper of Decatur; (second row, from left) rhythm section members Chris ;mith (trumpet) of Union, Liz Tullos (sax) of Philadelphia, Eric Henderson (sax) of 'orest, David Walters (trombone) of Philadelphia, Jennie Vance (keyboard) of Morton, Daniel Warren (guitar) of Meridian and Grant Morris (bass guitar) of 'hiladelphia; and (back row, from left) technicians Bryon Whitley of Philadelphia, Lee Dooley of Lake, Richard Burton of Little Rock, Joseph LeBlanc and Coty Stokes, ıoth of Louisville, and Jonathan Walker of Hickory. Not pictured are drummer feremie Jordan of Newton and director/guitarist Thomas W. Carson of Conehatta.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL X

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

IMPACT

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF March 28

STATE'S TOP SCHOLARS HONORED AT LUNCHEON

All-Mississippi Academic Team Named

Fifty-two Mississippi community and junior college students have been named to the All-Mississippi Academic Team. The All-Mississippi Academic Team recognizes the scholarly achievements and leadership accomplishments of students enrolled in community, technical and junior colleges across the state of Mississippi. Fifteen students from the All-Mississippi Academic Team have been named to the First Team and each will receive a $1,000 scholarship. The All-Mississippi Academic Team will be honored on Wednesday, March 23, at the State Capitol by the Mississippi Legislature, and will be guests of honor at a luncheon held at the Regency Hotel in Jackson. Lt. Governor Amy Tuck is scheduled to speak at the luncheon, and Senator Terry C. Burton will serve as master of ceremonies.

"By being named to the All-Mississippi Academic Team and having earned membership in Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, many of these students will receive substantial scholarship offers to attend senior institutions in Mississippi and across the nation," said Rod A. Risley, Executive Director of the Jackson-based honor society. "Research suggests that these students' level of academic achievement at the senior college will equal, if not exceed, that earned while attending their community/junior colleges," added Risley.

The All-Mississippi Academic Team program is coordinated by *The Clarion-Ledger*, Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges, and the Mississippi State Board for Community and Junior Colleges. Dr. Howell Garner, President, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, serves as program chairman.

All-Mississippi Academic Team members were selected following several rounds of judging. Judges included education and business leaders from the Metro-Jackson area and a distinguished panel of representatives from federal agencies and national education associations based in Washington, D.C. Students named to the All-Mississippi Academic Team compete for placement on the national All-USA Academic Team for Community and Junior Colleges, sponsored by USA TODAY, Phi Theta Kappa, and the American Association of Community Colleges. Twenty students named to the national All-USA First Team will be featured in the April 11 issue of USA TODAY, and each student will receive a $2,500 stipend. This year, nearly 1,600 nominations were received for the All-USA Academic Team competition. Mississippi ranks in the top five states in the nation having students named to the All-USA Academic First, Second and Third teams.

The All-Mississippi Academic Team sponsors include: *The Clarion-Ledger*, BancorpSouth, BankPlus, BellSouth, Booneville Rotary Club, Catfish Farmers of Mississippi, Coast Electric Power Association, Delta and Pine Land Company, Entergy, Farmers & Merchant Bank, General Dynamics Corporation, Hederman Brothers Printing, Johnson Controls, Magnolia State School Products, Mississippi Valley Gas, National Awards, Mixon & Burt Insurance Agency, R.S. Runnells, Sr., M.D.-Medical & Surgical Clinic, Inc., Sodexho Campus Services, Sodexho Marriott Services, Tecumseh Products, Inc., Trustmark, Valley Services, Inc., and Willmut Gas.

Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society administers the All-State and All-USA Academic Team Programs from its Jackson-based Headquarters. The first All-State Academic Team Program was launched in 1994 in Mississippi. This year, 32 states will sponsor All-State Academic Team programs using the All-Mississippi program as a model.

Faith Hessenius
College: East Central Community College
Hometown: Louisville
GPA: 3.80
Major: Architecture/Drafting
Career Goal: Mechanical Engineer
Achievements: Phi Theta Kappa Vice President of Scholarship; High School Recruiter; Great American Smoke-Out Project Chairman; Paints Houses for Disabled Senior Citizens; Nursing Home Volunteer; Mentor/Tutor to Underprivileged Children

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
UNION APPEAL _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
NEWTON RECORD _____
MERIDIAN STAR _____
CLARION-LEDGER ✓

WEEK OF April 4

ECCC Senior Days Scheduled April 12-13

Area high school students will have an opportunity to experience college life by attending East Central Community College's annual Senior Days scheduled April 12-13 on the Decatur campus.

The special event is billed as a day of "information, education and entertainment for all students," according to Joe Killens, ECCC Vice President for Student Services. Killens added, "We would also like to invite all faculty and administration from our area high schools to be a part of the Senior Day activities."

Registration begins at 9 a.m. in Huff Auditorium. Later in the morning students will be able to visit Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building where they can obtain information on various campus clubs and organizations and academic, technical and career programs. The Ac'cents and Collegians will perform each day and activities conclude with lunch on the mall at noon.

Schools scheduled to attend on Tuesday, April 12 include Carthage, Choctaw Central, Edinburg, Leake Academy, Louisville, Nanih Waiya, Newton, Newton County Academy, Noxapater, South Leake, Thomastown and Winston Academy

Those participating on Wednesday, April 13 will be Carthage Christian, Forest, Grace Christian, Lake, Morton, Morton Christian, Neshoba Central, Newton County, Philadelphia, Scott Central, Sebastopol and Union.

For more information contact the Student Services Office at 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

IMPACT

CARTHAGINIAN

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT

NEWTON RECORD

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF April 18

BRYAN MURPHY/THE NEWTON RECORD

The East Central Community College Accents perform for the the crowd at the Newton Chamber of Commerce banquet Thursday.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF April 25

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC AC'CENTS TO PRESENT CONCERT

The Ac'cents, East Central Community College's show choir, will present their annual spring campus concert at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 5, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium. The group will perform hits such as "Footloose," the title hit from the popular movie; "Love is a Wonderful Thing," made popular by Michael Bolton; "Reach Out," a Motown number; and "We Are Family," by Sister Sledge plus many more. Admission is free and the public is invited. Members include (front row, from left) Zach Logan of Newton, Felicia Chapman of Decatur, Kelly Bankston of Sebastopol, Victoria Loper of Decatur, Amy Kennedy of Forest and Bryon Whitley of Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) Sam McDill and Eddie Smith, both of Decatur; JoAnna Daugherty of Carthage, Grant Comans of Sebastopol, Luke Howell of Decatur, Mollie Cieglo of Forest, Cassidy Crenshaw of Philadelphia and Anthony Engram of Decatur. Vicki Blaylock serves as director.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

IMPACT

CARTHAGINIAN

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF April 25

ECCC To Hold Fine Arts Festival April 28

East Central Community College in Decatur will present its Annual Spring Fine Arts Festival at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 28, in the Ovid S. Vickers Fine Arts Center. There is no charge for admission and refreshments will be served.

The special program will feature selections by the ECCC Concert Choir under the direction of Dr. Chris Jenkins with Len Bobo serving as accompanist.

There will also be an exhibit displaying works by East Central art and ceramic students. Bruce Guraedy and Jill Hammes serve as art/ceramics instructors.

For more information contact Bruce Guraedy, Chairman of the Division of Fine Arts, at 601-635-2111, ext. 229, or toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 229. The email address is bguraedy@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

IMPACT

CARTHAGINIAN

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF April 25

ECCC SIFE Wins Regional Competition

The East Central Community College SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise) organization, after presenting a report of its year-long community outreach projects, was recently named a SIFE USA Regional Champion in the overall competition and a finalist in the HSBC Education Trust and the Corporate, Investment Banking and Markets Division of the HSBC SIFE USA National Personal Financial Success Skills Competition and SIFE USA Business Ethics Competition sponsored by Campbell?s and Sealed Air. The team will now advance to national competition at the SIFE USA National Exposition May 22-24 in Kansas City, Missouri. Team members include (front row, from left) Latisa Stewart of Philadelphia, Albertina Laster of Forest and Krystle Hunter of Louisville; and (back row, from left) SIFE advisor and Sam Walton fellow Wanda Hurley of Union, Kyle Gordon of Morton, Heath Manning of Philadelphia, Brandon Harris of Forest and Eric Beckham of Philadelphia. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

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WEEK OF May 9

ECCC students receive MSU scholarships

These East Central Community College students received various transfer scholarships to Mississippi State University, which were presented during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 5 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Scholarship recipients include (seated from left) Anna Price of Louisville, Ashley Clark of Sturgis, Ronda Stroud of Louisville, Dinah Lachney of Decatur, Dru Fulton of Louisville and Heath Smylie of Decatur; and (standing, from left) Latisa Stewart and Liz Tullos, both of Philadelphia; Jessica Sheehan of Little Rock, Valerie Gibbs of Newton, Jennifer Johnson and Jami Jones, both of Philadelphia; and Zach Staton of Union. Also pictured is MSU admissions counselor John Dickerson, who presented the awards. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

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WEEK OF May 9

Receive ECCC Vocational Awards

DECATUR--These students received vocational awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 5 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (from left) Robert Hardy of Lawrence, cabinet-making; Dustin Johnson of Carthage, carpentry; and Sharon Brown of Lawrence, cosmetology; and (standing from left) Lee Dooley of Lake, welding and cutting; and Betty Dyess of Carthage, licensed practical nursing. Not pictured is Bennie Joe Dertinger of Philadelphia, welding and cutting and "Vocational Student of the Year." (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 9, 2005

Harris receives SIFE Award at ECCC's Awards Day Program

ECCC sophomore Brandon Harris of Forest was presented a SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise) USA Freedom Corps award during the ECCC's Awards Day. The award is presented to approximately 25 SIFE students across the United States. To be selected for the honor a student must have been an active member of SIFE for two consecutive years and within that time must have accumulated a total of 400 hours of community service work. Wanda Hurley serves as ECCC SIFE advisor.

—ECCC PHOTO

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 9

ECCC announces art show winners

special to The Star

DECATUR — East Central Community College has announced the winners of its annual Spring Juried Art Show.

The show featured various student works in art and ceramics. Bruce Guraedy and Jill Hammes serve as instructors.

Honorees included:

• Design: Megan T. Harrell, Forest, first place; Darius Bobbitt, Lake, second place; Even Snell of Lake, third place; and Chris Shuler, Harperville; Amy Hathorn, Louisville; and Sandy Guess, Union, honorable mentions.

• Mixed Media: Tyler Triplett, first place; Amy Hathorn, second place, both of Louisville; Sandy Guess, Union, third place; and Even Snell, Lake; Daniel Wood, Bay Springs; and Chris Shuler, Harperville, honorable mentions.

• Charcoal/Pencil: Even Snell, Lake, first place; Tyler Triplett, Louisville, second place; Amy Hathorn, Louisville, third place; and Ashley Allard and Sandy Guess, both of Union, and Montero Baker, Columbus, honorable mentions.

• Painting: Chris Cooley, Newton, first place; Lindsey Knight, Union, second place and honorable mention; Mandy Sharp, Philadelphia, third place; and Karla Jim, Philadelphia, and Ernest Spivey, Forest, honorable mentions.

• Pen and Ink/Inkwash: Jasper Gant, Kosciusko, first place; Amy Hathorn, Louisville, second and third places; and Trellis Skinner, Decatur; Even Snell, Lake; and Chris Shuler, Harperville, honorable mentions.

• Clay Wheel/Ceramics: Sarah Hickox, Decatur, first place and honorable mention; Beth Yarborough, Philadelphia, second place and honorable mention; Courtnee Graham, Preston, third place; and Casey Lancaster, Forest, honorable mention.

• Hand Thrown Clay/Ceramics: Rhonda Miller, Carthage, first place and honorable mention; Theresa Yarrington, second place and honorable mention; Beth Yarborough, third place; and Dawn Hunt, honorable mention.

For more information contact Guraedy, (601) 635-2111, ext. 229, or toll free (877) 462-3222.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIME _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

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WEEK OF May 9, 2005

RAWSON

Rawson named to East Central Hall of Fame

East Central Community College in Decatur held its annual Awards Day ceremonies Thursday, May 5, when Lee Anne Rawson of Carthage was inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Rawson is a graduate of Carthage High School and the daughter of Gary and Rhonda Rawson of Carthage. A President's List Scholar, she was selected for *Who's Who Among American Community/Junior College Students.*

She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, warrior Corps, Mu Alpha Theta, East Central Environmental Club, Wesley Foundation and Diamond Girls. In addition, she is a member of the Baptist Student Union, where she serves on the BSU Council, directs the ministry team "The Way" and teachers Tae Bo classes.

Those nominating her wrote, "Lee Ann gives 100 percent in everything she does. She works hard to be a leader on campus and to represent EC well."

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER

SCOTT COUNTY TIM

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CARTHAGINIAN X

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT

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WEEK OF May 9

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HICKOX RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS ART SCHOLARSHIP: Sarah Hickox of Decatur, a sophomore art student at East Central Community College, was recently presented a scholarship valued at $8,000 to attend the College of Art and Design in Savannah, Georgia. Hickox received the $2,000 per semester award after submitting 10 works of art from her portfolio. Hickox, a Phi Theta Kappa member with a 3.944 grade point average, plans to study photography at the prestigious college. She is the daughter of Drue and Jim Hickox of Decatur. Also pictured is ECCC art instructor Bruce Guraedy.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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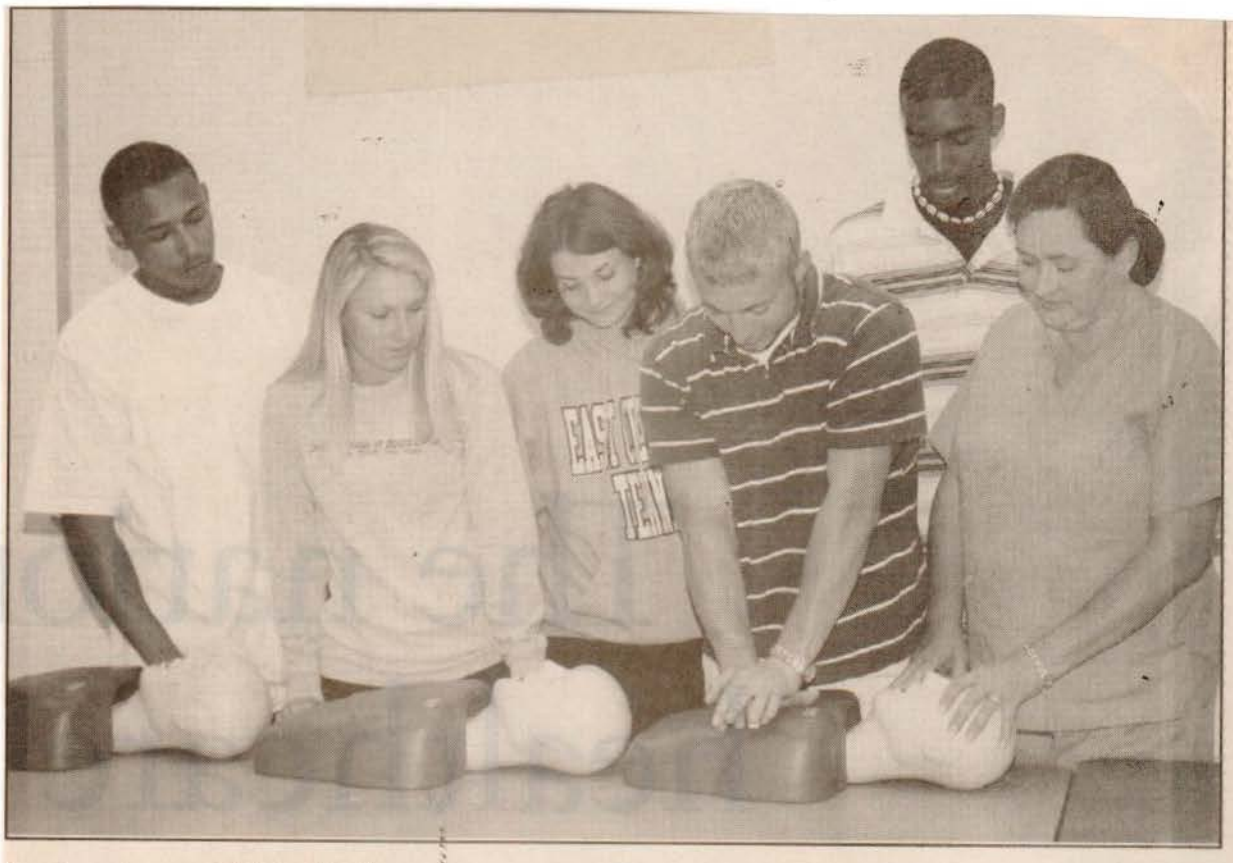
WEEK OF May 2



Learning CPR skills

Donna Pace (right) of Newton Regional Hospital recently instructed students in CPR training as a part of Lucille Wood's First Aid class at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured with Pace are (from left) Jonathan Nichols of Morton, Kristin Chaney of Little Rock, Courtney Partridge of Louisville, T.J. Rushing of Philadelphia and Marcus Wash of Carthage.

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

IMPACT

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF May 2

ECCC nursing students tour state hospital

East Central Community College nursing students of Neshoba County toured the Mississippi State Hospital campus as part of their clinical rotation. Nursing students are welcomed with a brief overview of the hospital's history and mission and tours of MSH's museum, child and adolescent unit, and forensic unit. MSH regularly hosts tours for nursing students. "Current statistics show that one in five Americans are affected by mental health, so no matter what specialty or field of practice these students are going into, they will encounter families and individuals needing treatment. We are appreciative for the opportunity to expose them to the hospital and its services," said Kathy Denton, MSH community affairs coordinator. Pictured are (first row, left to right) Kristi Partridge, Rhonda Moore, Lola Beckham, Carla Chamblee, Heather Kelly and Jodi Partridge; (second row, left to right) Kimberly Smith, Erin Nowell, Melissa Mayo and Carol Marie Brown, all of Neshoba County.

APPEARED IN:

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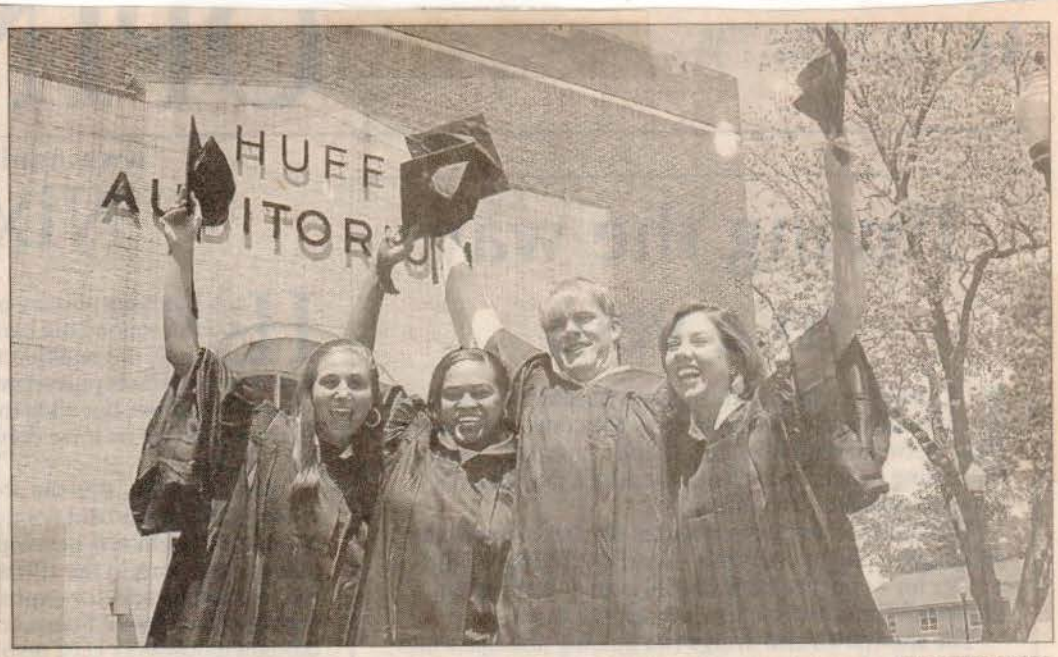
WEEK OF May 9, 2005



SUBMITTED PHOTO

HARD WORK PAYS OFF

Participating in East Central Community College's 76th commencement Friday on the Decatur campus were graduating sophomores, from left, Marley Smith of Union, invocation; Amy Ealy of Forest, commencement address; and Luke Howell of Union and Victoria Loper of Decatur, special music. Not pictured is Jordan Kemp of Louisville, who gave the benediction.

ECCC holds graduation at Warrior Stadium

special to The Star

DECATUR — Speaking to fellow graduates at East Central Community College's commencement ceremonies Friday night, Amy Ealy of Forest said it seemed like yesterday when she and her classmates were anxious freshmen, not knowing what to expect from college life.

"This was our first experience of being away from home," Ealy reminded the 450-plus members of the Class of 2005.

"It was our first experience of being on our own. There was no one to wake us and make sure we got to class or not. Some adjusted well and others, well, had problems."

"But most of us made it! We made it through all those late nights studying, studying in the early mornings, and we made it through cramming for exams all night," Ealy said.

"We made it through the many obstacles placed in front of us which we thought we would not overcome. We made it through all those tests and papers, the research, the reading — and more reading which was assigned. And somehow we made it!"

Ealy, who was earlier named to the college's Hall of Fame and was chosen Miss ECCC, remarked that during her two years at East Central, "I've learned what it means to be an adult and make choices that determine my future."

Ealy also noted that graduating from East Central marks the end of an era, the end of her community college experience.

"We've met and made friends with students from all five counties in the East Central Community College District and the surrounding areas. These friendships will last a lifetime, even though our lives will go in different directions," she said.

"And despite the fact we will go in different directions, it is my hope that we will return to this place on a regular basis and reminisce about our days at East Central."

Ealy said some graduates will continue their education at the university level, while some will enter the world of work.

"I know they will enter into the next phase of their adult life with confidence," she said. "Thanks to our EC professors, we are well prepared for whatever direction our lives will take."

Ealy closed with the following statement: "On behalf of the Class of 2005, I would like to thank the entire East Central Community College family for making this truly a place that lives up to its motto — 'With you in mind.'"

Special music for the commencement program was provided by graduating sophomores Victoria Loper of Decatur and Luke Howell of Union, who performed "You Raise Me Up."

Marley Smith of Union gave the invocation and Jordan Kemp of Louisville provided the benediction.

Diplomas were presented by ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and Vice President for Instruction Dr. Lavinia Sparkman.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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STAR X

LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 9, 2005

SUBMITTED PHOTO

East Central Community College nursing students of Scott County toured the Mississippi State Hospital (MSH) campus as part of their clinical rotation. Nursing students are welcomed with a brief overview of the hospital's history and mission and tours of MSH's museum, child and adolescent unit, and forensic unit. MSH regularly hosts tours for nursing students. "Current statistics show that one in five Americans are affected by mental health, so no matter what specialty or field of practice these students are going into, they will encounter families and individuals needing treatment. We are appreciative for the opportunity to expose them to the hospital and its services," said Kathy Denton, MSH community affairs coordinator. Pictured are (left to right) Rochelle Reid and Stacy Harris, both of Scott County.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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WEEK OF May 9, 2005

Adkins, Dickerson visit with Homecare Hospice of Sebastopol

Associate Degree Nursing student Lisa Adkins of Decatur (left) and pre-nursing major Anya Dickerson (second from left) of Conehatta visit with Homecare Hospice of Sebastopol representatives Floyd Bozeman (second from right) and Ilydia Hall (right) during East Central Community College's annual Business, Education and Healthcare Expo. More than 440 students toured the 57 exhibitor booths, which were located in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

—ECCC PHOTO

APPEARED IN:

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 9

ECCC STUDENTS RECEIVING STATE PBL HONORS: Members of East Central Community College's Theta Chi Chapter of Phi Beta Lambda, an organization for business students, received various honors at the State PBL Leadership Conference held recently in Jackson. Theta Chi won top honors in the Local Chapter Business Report and placed third in fund raising for the March of Dimes. Theta Chi was also selected as one of three Gold Seal Chapters in Mississippi and was recognized as a Foundation member. Individual awards were presented to (seated from left) Jeffery Davis of Louisville, first place, American Enterprise Project and second place, Community Service Project; Ken Webster of Philadelphia, first place, Human Resource Management; and Nolan Burchfield of Lobutcha, first place, Telecommunications; and (standing from left) Brad Walton of Decatur, who teamed with Chris Rush (far right) of Union to win second place honors in Webpage Design; Joseph Lathem of Sebastopol, second place, Information Management; Ken Triplett of Louisville, third place, Computer Concepts; and Rush, second place, Visual Basic. Triplet and Burchfield also teamed to win third place in Network Design, and Webster and Ron Foley (not pictured) of Newton placed third in Emerging Business Issues. Also not pictured is Fran Warmack of Louisville, who finished third in Community Service Project. The first- and second-place award winners qualify for the National PBL Leadership Conference scheduled this summer in Orlando, Florida

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

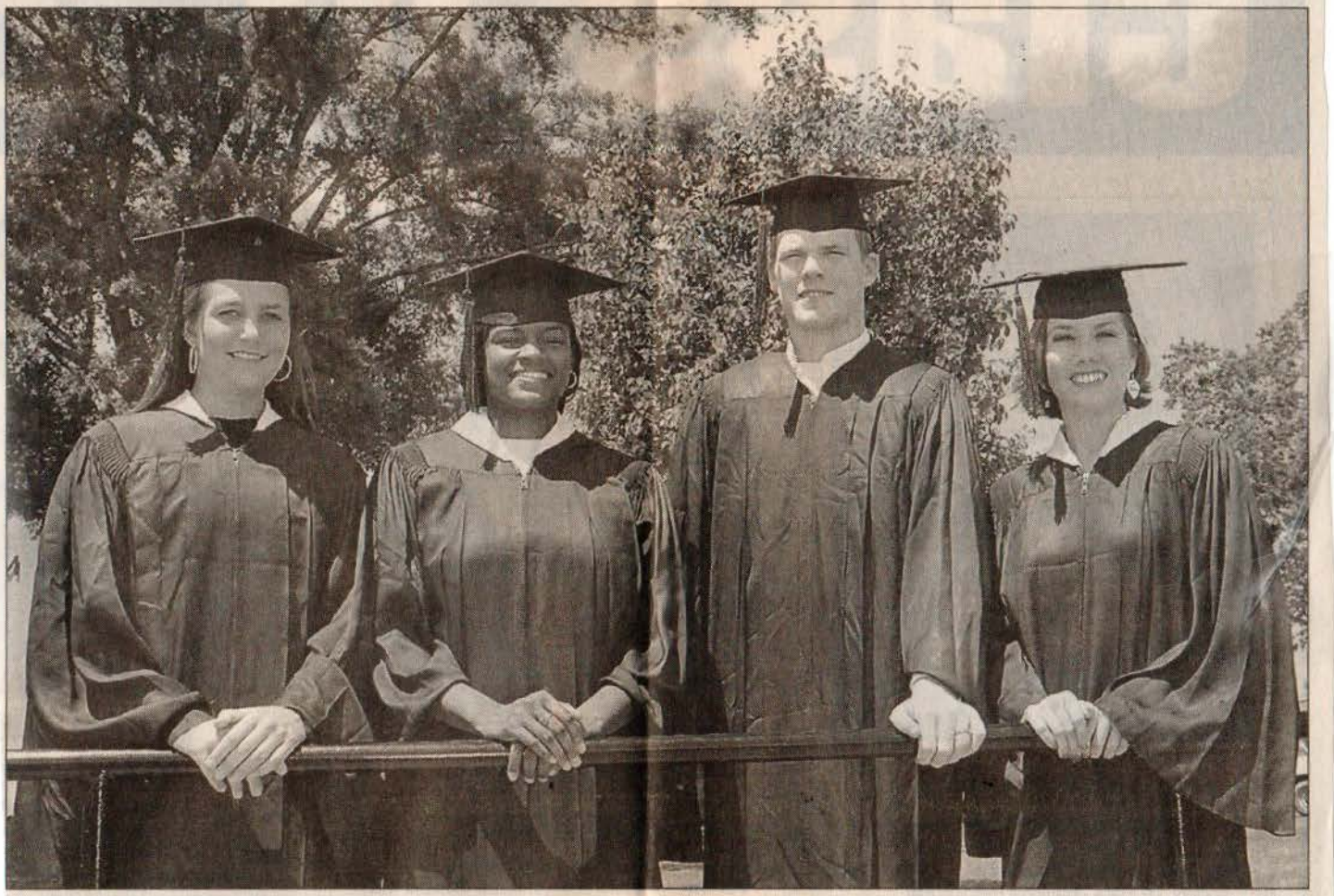
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

East Central Community College presents diplomas to 2005 graduates



SUBMITTED PHOTO

DECATUR COMMENCEMENT

Participating in East Central Community College's 76th commencement May 13 on the Decatur campus were graduating sophomores, from left: Marley Smith of Union, invocation; Amy Ealy of Forest, commencement address; and Luke Howell of Union and Victoria Loper of Decatur, special music. Not pictured is Jordan Kemp of Louisville, who gave the benediction. The ceremony was held in Warrior Stadium.

WEEK OF May 16, 2005

CARTHAGINIAN ✓
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT
NEWTON RECORD
MERIDIAN STAR ✓
CLARION-LEDGER

JOURNAL

CHOCTAW: Tabatha Marlene Charlie, Shavon L. Willis and Simeon Willis;

CHUNKY: Joseph Cavenaugh and Ashley Nicholson;

COLLINSVILLE: Holly Jackson Barrett, Jeffery Scott Gordon and Michael Allen Hardy;

COLUMBUS: Lynlee Healy and Kimberly Carletta Wilson;

CONEHATTA: Victoria Billy, Sharon E. Griffin and Weyman Reece;

DECATUR: Lauren Barrett, Gloria Buffington Bishop, Jami Blackburn, Kizzy Lucinda Caston-Miller, Heather Lynn Clearman, Obreisha Davis, Juston L. Dean, Julie Kay DeBord, Angelia Donald, Ty Aline Dowden, Brandon Ezell, Kristina Harrison, Yuvonne Kidd, Michael Johnson, Neil Knight, Richmond P. Lachney, Timothy Lockley, Victoria J. Loper, Derek Devon Mapp, Billie S. McCune, Jessica B. McDaniel, Karla Moody, Sharli Amanda Moulds, Diego Andres Perez, Kalena Y. Pippins, Kaleb A. Smith, Heath Herndon Smylie, Brad Sutphin, Brad Walton, Courtney Dorsett Willis and Erin Yelverton;

ENTERPRISE: Thomas Boyette, Floyd Walton Fowler, Sarah Himebrook and Carmelita Naylor;

FLORENCE: Robert McNair;

FOREST: Karen Chanelle Bates, William Black, Larry Kyle Brantley, Darrell Ervin Brogdon, Buster Brogdon, Monica Patricia Esguerra, Larry B. Evans,Jr., Stacy Thompson Harris, Brandon Harris, Veronica Harrison, Blake Hines, Toccara Jones, Sawana Jones, Amy Carol Kennedy, Casey Lancaster, Beverly Ann McAfee, Sophia Moppins, Melissa Pilgrim, Jewellia Rochelle Reid, April N. Robinson, Steven Zachary Rue, Tina Sanders, Lance Marguain Sigrest, Linda Lois Spivey, Pamela Spivey, Leslie K. Stewart and Lee Turner;

HICKORY: Jeania Clayton, Shelly Ferguson, Shirley L. Hughes, Makesha Y. Jones and Lucas W. Little;

MERIDIAN: Valerie Alexander, Valerie A. Arrington, David Christopher Bayles, Steven E. Belvin, Ophelia Clay, Mildred Cole, Walter Fillingane, David John Holliday, KaTrina Nelson, Dorothy Jean Price, Shawn Ribble, Jered T. Ridings, Ryan Edward Stewart, Tayna Williams and Van Wilson;

MORTON: Kimberly Coley, Amy Renae Ealy, Kyle Taylor Gordon, Daniel G. Herring and Andrew Lewis;

NEWTON: Kacey Brooke Bender, Cynthia Denise Brantley, Arjeanetta Ann Cary, Valerie Ann Gibbs, Jay Gipson, Casey J. Griffin, Wade Benjamin Hollingsworth, Rose Kelly, Hester Verlinda Knight, Dominic S. Lewis, Johnny Martin, Quintisa Moncrief, Precious H. Moorehead, Carri Posey Myers, Falind C. Pace, Latoya Lashun Pugh, Dorothy J. Roberts, Brian Sibley, Aaron C. Sibley, Stephanie Wallace and Michael Wash;

NOXAPATER: Martha Boswell, Corey Coward, John Creekmore, Rachel Leigh Edwards, Angela Lyon and Jacqueline G. Miller;

PHILADELPHIA: Jessica Michelle Alford, India Backstrom, Heather Bain, Lola Barton Beckham, Joshua Darrell Benson, Jason Blair, La'Quinta Bonds, Tasha Boswell, Jonathan Brand, Beckham Loper, Robert Justin Lovern, Violet B. Manning, LaTanya McDonald, Linda R. McMillan, Alexander Scott Moore, Rhonda Fox Moore, Trinity Grant Morris, Brent D. Nance, Erin Thrash Nowell, Karen Partridge, Jodi Kelley Partridge, Shane Patterson, Aristotle Phillips, Debbie Poole, Victoria Flame Reese, Josh Sansing, Vivian Moore Seales, Marissa Shannon, Shane Colby Sharp, Kimberly Smith, Latisha Stephens, Latisa Shanyell Stewart, Cameron Tawater, Kevin D. Tindol, William Tingle, Joseph D. Tingle, Clint Vowell, Tawon A. Walker, Anna Waltman, Troy Dale White, III, Robert Bryan Whitley, Jr., Dustin Wilson and Tiah Rae York;

PRESTON: Courtnee Graham, Melissa Mayo and Cynthia Hailey Moody;

PULASKI: Greta Hodge Butts, Stephanie Michelle Hord and Tiffany N. Jones;

QUITMAN: Marcus Reed;

RALEIGH: Cory D. Bender;

SEBASTOPOL: Tekeyla Lyles and Jackie Tharp;

SHUBUTA: William Preston James;

STURGIS: Ashley N. Clark;

TOOMSUBA: Sheila Hodge;

UNION: Jodie Barker

Danny Cain, Marie A. Campbell, Ashley Conn Carter, Telly Carter, Pamela Patrice Carter, Hope Chadwick, Carla Lea Chamblee, Erica Clemons, William E. Coghlan, David Brock Cook, Robert W. Cotton, Tywon Rontrice Davis, Bennie Joe Dertinger, Brian Emerson, Justin Matthew Eubanks, Raquel Elaine Farmer, Natasha Foster, Yolandra Denise Hickman, Marjay L. Hickman, K. Bradley Hillman, Julie Holley, Jonathan LaShun Hudson, Neimiah Jim, Ahlishia Johnson, Jennifer Ellen Johnson, Jami G. Jones, Brandy S. Jones, Heather Holley Kelly, Priscilla A. Lee, Kimberlane Lewis, Sheila Burroughs, John A. Franklin, Eli Goss, Clinton Harmon, Luke Benjamin Howell, Tonya Johnson, Lindsey Marie Knight, Staci R. Mann, Robert McPherson, Anthony B. O'Neal, Christopher Rush, Marley Ann Smith, Shana Smith, Zach Staton, Lacie Stephens, Jannie Talley, Talon William Terrell, Rachel Thaggard, Leticia Vinet-Shipley, Krystal Winstead and Brant Andrew Winstead;

WALNUT GROVE: Susan Ellington, Chavlon Ellis, Janice Fortune, Kathleen S. Hogue and Melton York;

EPES, ALA: James Ozment; and

MANSFIELD, LA: Joshua Stephen Miller.

SUMMER, DECEMBER 2004 GRADUATES

BAILEY: Shelby Swanner;

CARTHAGE: Emily Denita Chamblee, Jada Billingsley Hamm, Bonnie Carol Harrell, Melanie C. Jones, Gloria A. Martin, Celeste Martin, April Jasmine McCurty, William Brody Perkins, Jennifer Perkins, Eva Sam and Kenesha B. Thomas;

CHOCTAW: L'Ree Thompson;

CHUNKY: Rebecca Jones;

COLLINS: James Allen Keys;

CONEHATTA: Judy Bugg and Angela Denise Farve;

DECATUR: Heather Felicity Adkins, Tory Huddleston, Yuvonne Terriann Kidd, Heather Lewis, Tammy Sessums and Denise Shoemaker;

FLORENCE: Ramona H. Stokes;

FOREST: Kristy R. Bounds, Jeffery Brantley, Jimmy Coleman, Latrice Spivey, Elizabeth Anne Steptoe and Mary L. Williams;

HATTIESBURG: Jason Eaves;

HICKORY: Dewanna Ford, Jeremy Wayne Joiner and Virginia M. Walker;

LAKE: Chloris Hornsby and Frances V. Johnson;

LAUDERDALE: Fabian Johnson;

LENA: Jessica Bricker, Randi Bricker and Teshia Johnson;

LITTLE ROCK: Henry Tyler Hagan and Dean Williamson;

LOUIN: Malisa King;

LOUISVILLE: Delisa Jenkins, Amber Renee Jewell, Courtney Smith, Jonathan C. Stokes and Chris Weaver;

MERIDIAN: Benjamin S. Boyette, Jr., Brittany Diller, Keith A. Jacoby, John W. Johnson, Anthony S. Kidd and Dereck Wright;

MORTON: Tanya Westerfield;

NEWTON: Billye Jean Bowden, Dina Campbell, Percy Hester, Matthew L. Parks, Janis Elizabeth Simmons, Mary Vega, Christopher S. Walker and Melinda Walker;

PELAHATCHIE: Kristy Ward Ellis;

PHILADELPHIA: Stefanie Erin Ammerman, Teawanna Anderson, Tehona Bell, Jamika Z.L. Brown, Katie Burrage-Allard, Katie Chunn, Bernadine Hickman Dixon, Byron Donald, Emily M. Files, Russell James Giambrone, Coco Graham, Emily D. Hill, Darlene M. Hunter, Lee Ann Jayroe, DeAna Morrow, Alicia M. Murphy, Valerie Joyce Nicholson, Genna Donald Pope, Stephanie Sanders, Connie LaShell Smith, Melissa Tindol, Tanya B. Watkins, Ashley S. White, Elyse Willis, Jaxie Lynn Willis and Koreather Zapata;

PORTERVILLE: Jashemia Cherry;

QUITMAN: Sharon Collins;

RIPLEY: Clinton Thomas;

STARKVILLE: Evelyn Hayes;

STONEWALL: Emmett R. Southern;

STURGIS: Hampton Gary;

TAYLORSVILLE: Toney Edison;

UNION: Ashley Addy, Aubrie Cleveland, Melissa Ann Eshee, Myrtle Hopson, Lori Horton, Shanna D. Jones, Vincent E. McElhenney, Melissa Overton, Stephanie Rigdon, Laura Rosar, Natalie Tillman and Matthew Winstead;

WALNUT GROVE: Cynthia L. Gibson, Jessica Ann Martin and Kanta Monique Overstreet;

TUSCALOOSA, ALA: Joshua Curry;

GROVEHILL, ALA: Oumbashi Petersen;

ALICEVILLE, ALA: Henry Smith;

KERNERSVILLE, NC: Robert Christopher White;

CHICAGO, ILL: Virginia Robinson; and

BASTROP, LA: Dexter Sellers.

special to The Star

DECATUR — More than 475 students received diplomas May 13, as East Central Community College held its 76th commencement at 8 p.m. in Warrior Stadium.

Included in the total are those who completed degree requirements following the 2004 summer and fall terms, according to Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, vice president for instruction.

Those participating in the program included: graduating sophomores Marley Smith of Union, who gave the invocation; Amy Ealy of Forest, who presented the keynote address; and Jordan Kemp of Louisville, who gave the benediction. Victoria Loper of Decatur and Luke Howell of Union presented a musical selection titled "You Raised Me Up."

Dr. Sparkman presented the candidates for graduation, and ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin awarded degrees and certificates to the following, listed by hometown:

MAY 2005 GRADUATES

BAILEY: Curtis LeShawn Hudnall and Samantha Partridge;

BAY SPRINGS: Mikel Lee Pittman and Jason William Thigpen;

CANTON: Marvis L. Douglas;

CARTHAGE: Otiko G. AnthonyKayla J. Atkinson, Akeinnis A. Brown, Carol Marie Brown, Edna Collins, Charisity Tubby Dixon, Betty Jean Dodd, Brooke Dorman, Loretta Lynn (Mingo) Frazier, Kari Denise Freeny, Jamie Dianne Gilmer, Jason R. Hannis, Kevin R. Hatch, Chance Davis Henderson, Lonnie Ray Henry, Donald Justin Ingram, Lora Jayroe, Marcus Brandon Jenkins, Dustin Johnson, Rebecca Jones, Brandon R. Lang, Ashley Luckett, Jerry A. Luckett, Sonja Mansell, Stephanie N. May, Matt McGowin, Tammy Burkes McMurry, Danny Ray Moore, Gina Nazary, Chasity Odom, Randy Peoples, Jason Price, Amanda W. Price, Lee Anne Rawson, LaDerry Reed, Dana Withers Roberson, Wanda Suzanne Shannon and Perry Shermaine Truss;

HILLSBORO: Bradford David Walley;

JACKSON: Mary Bolela;

KOSCIUSKO: Alexa Carr, Ozzie McMurtry and Gerrick Nichols;

LAKE: Thomas Chris Anderson, Blair LaNae Anderson, Yzette B. Butler, Kara Clark, Kimberly Cox, Alice Ruth Donald, William Lee Dooley, Kathy Carr Emmons, Cedric Gray, Steven Kelly, Brandy B. McClendon, Roxana Rogers, William Artie Shaw and Jarrod Street;

LAWRENCE: Kotreece A. Bender, Demetrius Evans, Robert C. Hardy, Shane A. Johnston, Shatwaka Darvesha Ooten and Cody Lee Savell;

LENA: Meco Bloodsaw, Michael Bradley, Joshua Lance Brown, Dorothy Janeen Kyzar, Richard Erik Latham and Kellie Joyner Moore;

LITTLE ROCK: Brooke Michele Bohl, Richard Burton, Suzanne Nicole Chaney, Kristin DeAnne Chaney, Bradley Aaron Cook, Phillip C. Dean, Paul Matthew McMahan, Matt Christopher Rigdon and Jessica Leigh Sheehan;

LOUIN: Ocie Smith;

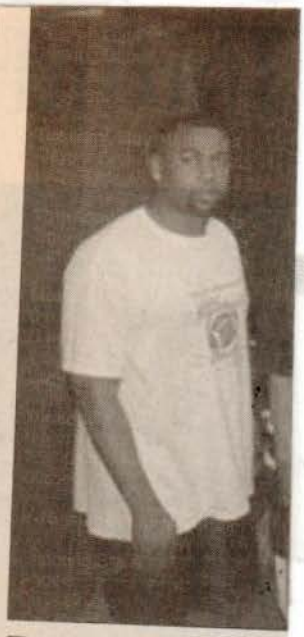
LOUISVILLE: Derrell Ricardo Ashford, Benjamin J. Clark, Alvin Coleman, Jessica Nicole Davis, Alisa Duncan, Jamison R. Eichelberger, Katesia LyShae Esters, Dru Catherine Fulton, Aleatrice Goss, Demetrice Goss, Rosie Faith Harris, Daphanie Hatcher, Shawn' ta Renee Hawthorne, Bradley J. Hill, Veronica D. Holmes, Donna Michelle Hopkins, Banita Y'tra Houston, Ryan Hudson, Krystle Niccole Hunter, Jordan Kemp, Alan F. Krajewski, Amy Lauren Mayo, Carolyn Mays, James R. McMillin, III, Lakeshia Miller, Joni Mitchell, Anna Price, Karquetta Shanta Smith, Ronda Stroud, Roger Wesley Thornton, Kendrick Triplett, Chadrick Triplett, Frances C. Warmack and William Joshua Weaver;

MADISON: David Philip Duncan;

WEEK OF May 16, 2005

Six named to ECCC H

Pictured from left to right, Kristen Chaney, Amy Ealy, Marley Smith, Ashley Clark, Bria



The team 'Deuce', led b

East Central Community College in Decatur held its annual Awards Day ceremonies on May 5, when numerous students were honored, including six students who were named to the College's Hall of Fame, the highest honor presented at the two-year institution.

To be considered for this honor, students "must demonstrate exemplary character, superior scholarship, worthy leadership and contribute to the betterment of East Central Community College," according to Dr. Phil Sutphin,

Hall of Fame in
include Kristin
Rock, Ashley Cl
Ealy of Forest, I
Carthage, Brian
and Marley Smi

Chaney is a
County High Sc
of Ricky and Br
Rock. A Dean's
named to W
American
Colleges.

She is a m
Kappa Honor
Warrior basketb
and the Fellc
Athletes. She v
Team All-Ame
ball her freshm
the same selec
sophomore y
Central's fir

College Students.

Ealy is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, Gospel Choir, Baptist Student Union, Warrior Corps and the Centralettes, the danceline for the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band.

Rawson is a graduate of Carthage High School and the daughter of Gary and Rhonda Rawson of Carthage. A President's List Scholar, she was selected for Who's Who Among American Community/Junior College Students.

She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, Warrior Corps, Mu Alpha Theta, East Central Environmental Club, Wesley Foundation and Diamond Girls. In addition, she is a member of the Baptist Student Union, where she serves on the BSU Council, directs the ministry team "The Way" and teaches Tae Bo classes.

Brian Sibley is a graduate of Newton County Academy and the son of Henry and Martha Sibley of Newton. A National Collegiate Student Government Award Winner and Collegiate All-American Scholar, he was also named to Who's

IAL

CARTHAGINIAN
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓
NEWTON RECORD
MERIDIAN STAR
CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF May 2

Chaney Becomes ECCC's First Two-Sport All-American

East Central Community College standout athlete Kristin Chaney probably does not consider herself as a history-maker, but that is exactly what the Little Rock native recently accomplished when the 5-4 point guard recently received second team All-American honors as a member of the Lady Warrior basketball team.

Chaney also received second team All-American honors as a freshman on the Lady Warrior fast-pitch softball squad.

She is the only Mississippi JUCO player to make the Division I All-American first or second teams in basketball, and she was the only Mississippian to receive the same honor in Division II softball.

Chaney, who recently signed a letter of intent to play basketball and softball at the University of Southern Mississippi, said earning All-American honors in basketball caught her by surprise.

"I never dreamed I'd make it (All-American) in basketball," Chaney was quoted in a recent news article. "Our high school (Newton County) was a softball-oriented school instead of basketball. I've got to give Coach (Brad) Hodge (ECCC head women's basketball coach) a lot of credit for where I am and for getting All-American."

Chaney added that her success on the basketball court was not anticipated by some.

"I know a lot of people thought I'd never step foot on the court at East Central," she stated. "I'm glad I proved them wrong. I know I've got a lot of critics that say I won't step foot at Southern, but I hope I can prove them wrong, too. Right now, I'm the only point guard that they're bringing in, along with the one they had last year."

Hodge was quoted saying Chaney's success on the basketball court "is a testament to her natural ability."

"That just shows you what kind of competitive student-athlete she is," Hodge said. "To be named second-team All-American thus far in two separate sports shows you what kind of athlete she is and what she's capable of doing.

"We're just very excited and proud for her. There's been nobody more deserving of such an honor. We're going to miss her but we're proud of what she has brought to us the past two years and hope she continues her success at Southern."

Chaney averaged 13 points for the 20-10 Lady Warriors who were Region 23 Tournament runners-up and a semi-finalist in the MACJC State Tournament. She scored a career high 31 points against Mississippi Delta. She also averaged four assists and two steals. Chaney was also named first team All-Region and All-State and was named to the All-Region 23 Tournament Team.

She averaged 11 points per game during the Lady Warriors championship season in 2003-04, garnering first team All-State honors in addition to being selected on the All-Region 23 Tournament Team. She helped lead ECCC to the Region 23, MACJC and South Division titles and a top eight finish in the NJCAA Women's Basketball Championship in Salina, Kansas, en route to a record 31 wins and just four losses.

Chaney played a key role in leading the Lady Warrior softball team to 26-14 regular season record and a second-place finish in the MACJC Central Division with an 11-5 mark. The ECCC women, led by

advanced to the Region 23/MACJC Tournament at Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville where they were winless in the double-elimination competition.

Chaney, a shortstop, completed season action with a .423 batting average. She had four triples, seven doubles and collected 15 RBIs. She also scored 34 runs. In addition to receiving second-team All-American honors, Chaney was named first team All-Region 23, All-State and All-Division.

Coach Hill made the following comment about Chaney when she received All-American recognition:

"Kristin is a real pleasure t coach. She raises the rest of th team's level of play with the energ she brings to the field every gam Players like Kristin don't com around very often."

Chaney and the Lad Warrior softball team are havin another successful season and spo a 25-3 overall record and 12- division mark following a sweep c Hinds Community College o Saturday, April 23. With the win East Central clinched the Centra Division championship and wil

WEEK OF May 16, 2005

Receive Top "Charcoal/Pencil" Honors in ECCC Art Contest

These students received top honors in the "Charcoal/Pencil" category of the annual East Central Community College Spring Juried Art Show.

Pictured are (seated, from left) Even Snell, first place, of Lake; and Tyler Triplett, second, and Amy Hathorn, third, both of Louisville; and (standing, from left) Ashley Allard and Sandy Guess, both of Union, and Montero Baker of Columbus, who all received honorable mention.

Bruce Guraedy and Jill Hammes serve as instructors. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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WEEK OF May 16, 2005

ECCC INTRAMURAL CHAMPS

The "Schnazzberries" captured the Women's Intramural Softball championship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (front row, from left) Ronda Stroud of Louisville, Jessica Sheehan of Little Rock, Anna Price of Louisville, Lynlee Healy of Macon, Jamiee Jones of Nanih Waiya and Lee Anne Rawson of Carthage; and (back row, from left) Dru Fulton of Louisville, Stephanie Pace of Newton, Jodie Rawson of Carthage, Ashley Clark of Sturgis, Crystal Tull of Carthage and Courtnee Graham of Preston. Not pictured are Faith Hessenius of Louisville, Kasey Hall of Lawrence, Rachel Edwards of Noxapater, Reagan Melton of Philadelphia and Alisha Perry of Ludlow. Scott Hill serves as director of intramurals.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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NEWTON RECORD ✓

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WEEK OF May 16, 2005

Mabry Honored

DECATUR--Tina Mabry of Lake (left), nurse practitioner at the Rush Medical Clinic in Lake, was among area nurses who received special recognition in observance of Nurse Appreciation Week during a ceremony held at the Associate Degree Nursing/Child Care Technology Building at East Central Community College in Decatur. Each honoree was presented a certificate "for outstanding performance in the profession of nursing" from Brenda Kirby (right) of Forest, who serves as District 15 president of the Mississippi Nurses Association. Mabry also serves as president of the Mississippi Board of Nursing. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 16, 2005

ECCC restructures orientation

East Central Community College will once again offer five orientation sessions this summer for students planning to attend fall classes. However, the day's activities have been restructured to make them more student-friendly.

Joe Killens, Vice President for Student Services, said, "We are continuing to streamline our Orientation process to better serve our students. Unlike the previous registration process where everyone began at the same time, students can now arrive any time between the hours of 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. to begin the registration process."

"Depending on the crowd, we anticipate the process lasting a couple of hours. After completing registration, students will be ready to start classes in the fall. The only additional step will be to attend an Orientation meeting the first week of school or they may complete the Orientation process on our website as soon as they complete registration."

Killens also reminds students that ACT sub-scores will continue to be used for placement in Math and English. Students who have not sent a copy of their ACT scores to East Central will be placed in Developmental Math and English until scores are received. He also said they may bring a copy of their ACT scores the day they register.

"Students who do not have an ACT score on file or with them on Orientation day will be placed in Developmental Math and English classes," said Killens.

"However, schedules may be changed at a later date once the required score is on file. For students who have not taken the ACT, the College administers the test several times throughout the summer."

Contact academic counselor Michael Alexander at 601-635-2111, ext. 231, for ACT information.

Killens also reminds students that in order to receive MTAG (Mississippi Tuition Assistance Grant) they must have taken the National ACT.

To complete registration, students need to have the following information on file in the Office of Admissions, Records and Research: (1) a completed application for admission; (2) an ACT score (academic/technical students only; does not apply to vocational students); (3) official high school transcript; and (4) college transcript if a transfer student.

During orientation, students receive their approved class schedules for the fall semester, reserve or check the status of their dormitory rooms, and have photographs made for identification cards. Orientation also provides a great opportunity for students to become familiar with campus facilities and to meet with administrators, faculty and staff.

The only fee associated with orientation is a $5 charge to purchase parking decals. A tag number is required to purchase the decal.

Killens added, "We will continue to serve the noon meal in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria and invite all students and parents to join us for lunch."

Honors orientation will be held on Friday, June 3, for students who have a 21 or above ACT score, those selected STAR students, valedictorians and salutatorians and members of the Beta Club or other honor societies.

Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Saturday, June 18; Thursday, July 7; Wednesday, July 20; and Friday, August 12.

For more information contact Student Services at 635-2111, ext. 375 or 205 or toll free 1-877-462-3222.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 5-23-05

EC students visit Family Center

From press reports

The Child Development Technology Department of East Central Community College recently visited the Louisville Municipal School Family Center. Mrs. Barbra Eichelberger and Mrs. Marie Livingston welcomed everyone. They told their guests that the Family Center is an educational lending library.

The students, children, and teachers were entertained by Granny, who read them a very interesting story, and Mother Goose, who presented an exciting puppet show. The children thoroughly enjoyed it.

Following the entertainment Granny and Mrs. Livingston walked the group across the road to Ivy Park where they enjoyed a picnic and playing on the playground.

East Central's Child Development Department instructs students in curriculum planning and implementation and gives them experiences in coordination of activities in art, music, language arts, social studies, science, math, and other avenues of learning, thus preparing teachers' aides in public school systems and other positions. Upon successfully completing the Child Development Technology program, graduates should be able to gain entry to administrative level employment in the child care industry.

The program also operates a licensed child care center for 30 children from age eight-weeks to kindergarten age. These are children of faculty and students at EC and are here for the purpose of training students, who must work 480 hours in the center. Each year, the students plan a field trip for the children.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL X

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 5-23-05

Attend ECCC Senior Day

Morton High School seniors Tavarius Walker (left) and Amy Cobern (center) were among area high school students attending Senior Day activities held at East Central Community College in Decatur. The campus guests are shown visiting with biology instructor Ron Davis at one of the many information booths available for students in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Entertainment for the special visitors was provided by the College jazz band, Ac'cents and the Collegians in Huff Auditorium. A complimentary lunch was also provided on the East Mall. Approximately 840 seniors from the ECCC five-county district attended the annual event. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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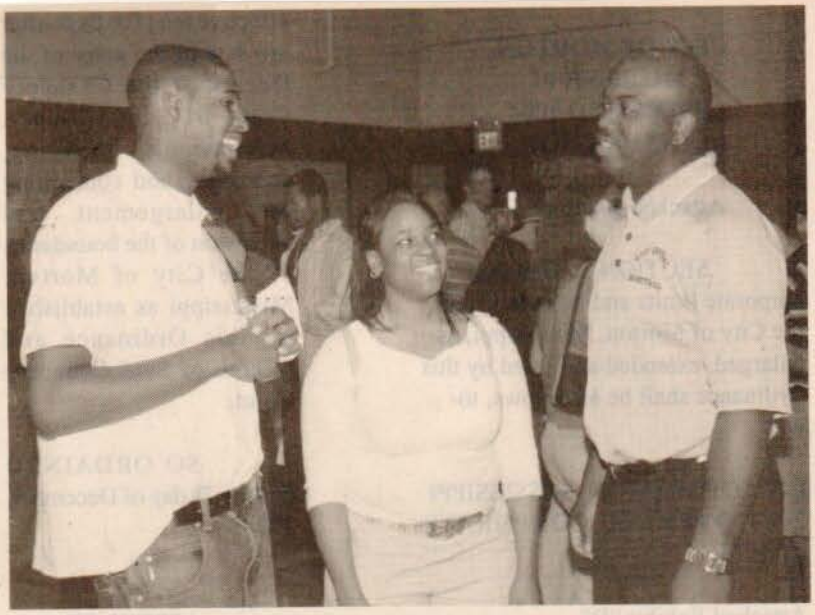
WEEK OF 5-23-05



ECCC Senior Day Participants

Seniors J. D. Ficklin (left) of Morton and Shaticka Crudup (center) of Forest were among area students attending Senior Day activities held at East Central Community College in Decatur. The campus guests are shown with Kevin McGhee, assistant men's basketball coach, in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building where information booths pertaining to academic, technical and career programs of study, clubs and organizations, and special interests were available for students. Entertainment for the special visitors was provided by the College jazz band, Ac'cents and the Collegians in Huff Auditorium. A complimentary lunch was served on the East Mall. Approximately 840 seniors from the ECCC five-county district attended the annual event. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON X

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 5-23-05

Completes ECCC EMT program

Graduates of the East Central Community College Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)-Paramedic Technology Program were recently recognized during a reception held on the Decatur campus. Completing the two-year course of study are (seated from left) Shawn Ribble of Meridian, Kevin Tindol of Philadelphia, Scott Gordon of Collinsville and Brooke Bohl of Little Rock. The five students are now eligible to take the National Registry Exam for Paramedics. Standing from left are Barry Mason, interim director/instructor; Dr. Shawn Anderson, instructor, of Meridian; and Stephanie Womack, medical director, of Meridian. For more information regarding the College's EMT-Paramedic Technology Program, contact Barry Mason, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 389. The email address is bmason@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT X

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 5-23-05

Local Seniors named ECCC Assistant Drum Majors

Laura Estes (left) of Forest and Kimberly Bassett of Scott Central have been selected to serve as assistant drum majors for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band at East Central Community College in Decatur for 2005-06. Estes is the daughter of Teresa Clark and Randy Estes, and Bassett's parents are Carl and Terrie Bassett. Director of Bands Thomas W. Carson expects the largest band in school history to take the field when East Central hosts Northwest Mississippi Community College on September 1.

—ECCC PHOTO

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES X

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 5-23-05

ECCC announces spring 2005 semester honor roll

Students named to the 2005 spring semester honor roll, which includes those selected to the President's list, Dean's List and Honorable Mention List, have been announced at East Central Community College in Decatur, according to Donna Luke, Director of Admissions, Records and Research.

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Those named to the President's List, students with a 4.0 grade point average, include the following:

CHOCTAW: Timothy Darryl Willis.

PHILADELPHIA: Heather N. Bain, Jason Matthew Blair, Rachel Leigh Chappell, Gabriel Lee Chickaway, Erica A. Clemons, Bennie Joe Dertinger, Brian M. Dunn, Clinton D. Howell, Brett Thomas Latimer, Marsha L. Lillis, Paul Martin Moss, Jodi Kelley Partridge, Brent Eugene Smith, Kyle A. Thompson, Ashley Nicole Tolbert, Toni Gail Tullos and Tanya L. Watkins.

UNION: Lauren Elizabeth Beckham, Elizabeth A. Bennett, Clancy Lessine Cleveland, Rebekah L. Crenshaw, Beth A. Crotwell, Lester Scott Dooley, John Ashley Franklin, Clinton M. Harmon, Ashley Franklin Rigdon, James Casey Shackelford, Shana Michelle Smith and Brant Andrew Winstead.

DEAN'S LIST

The Dean's List includes the following students who achieved a 3.5 or above grade point average:

PHILADELPHIA: India Backstrom, Angel Leigh Ann Beckham, Matthew E. Bell, Lenny Boatner, Felecia Moore Boler, Lindsey Nell Bostick, Amee Kaye Brackin, Cindy Eakes Bryan, Casey Le'Ann Cain, Teshiina L. Caljesuseso, Hope Lyman Chadwick, Joshua Kent Cumberland, Justin Matthew Eubanks, Kenneth Bradley Hillman, Daniel Wayne Hodge, Danny J. Johnson, Jennifer Ellen Johnson, Jami Gayle Jones, Zachary Tyler Kilpatrick, Theresa Nicole Land, Priscilla A. Lee, Kimberlane Summer Lewis, LaTanya McDonald, Narell Domini Monroe, Meagan Marie Myers, Brent Dale Nance, Joshua Pigg, Jessica L. Porter, Jason Sanders, Tina Agent Savell, Vivian Seales, Tiffany S. Stack, Jeremy M. Tolbert, Brenda Pirkle Tullos, Elizabeth A. Tullos, Shannon Danae Wallace, Anna Kathryn Waltman, Joshua P. White, Tiffany Shonique Willis and Cecily Chantell Zaffar.

UNION: Ashley Skylar Allard, Lasaundra Cherelle Harrison, Tonya Shea Johnson, Melissa Woods Mason, Andrew Scott McDaniel, Tracy Marie McMahan, Billy Rouse Reynolds, Jana Smith, Marley Ann Smith, Zach M. Staton, Treasure Laura'Anna Vance, Lauren Elizabeth White and Brooklyn N. Winstead.

WALNUT GROVE: Kathryn Elizabeth Barney, Helen Bolton Brown, Jonathan Eugene Corley, Mark Anthony Engram, Loretta Gates and Clay Daniel Thrash.

CHOCTAW: Jamaica Lynn Hernandez and Diana Tehauno Hickman.

PHILADELPHIA: Jessica Michelle Alford, Cyril Kane Amos, Monica D. Bell, Dianna Ruth Ben, Joshua Darrell Benson, Adam Craig Bobo, Laquinta La'Sha Bonds, Jonathan Brand, Daniel Lee Cain, Tiffany L. Carter, Carla Lea Chamblee, Shana Carol Chaney, William Eugene Coghlan, Adrienne M. Coleman, William Cassidy Crenshaw, Jonathan Maurice Davis, Tywon Rontrice Davis, Betty White Dyess, Brian C. Emerson, Kevin Lee Fedrick, Patrice Glennette Fielder, Ashley Elizabeth Fortenbery, Carla Hudnell Goforth, Richard Dewain Goldman, Katie Marie Hancock, Thomas E. Henderson, Yolandra Denise Hickman, Neimiah Lee Jim, Lee Wayne Johnson, Marjay L. Jones, Heather Holley Kelly, Sheila Beckham Loper, Robert Justin Lovern, Sylvia D. Majure, Vanessa Marie Manning, Thomi Suzanne McGeisey, Ron Nathanael Moore, Trinity Grant Morris, Joel Edsel Morris, Alexis Moneek Nichols, Michael Cade Parsons, Christopher Shane Patterson, Aristotle Duane Phillips, David Brandon Pope, Thomas Brinson Quintana, Victoria Flame Reese, Jana Elizabeth Sansing, Erin Elizabeth Smith, Carl Benjamin Spence, Latisa Shanyell Stewart, Cameron Michael Tawater, Kevin Dwight Tindol, William L. Tingle, Sunni Carol Tolbert, LaToya D. Triplett, Adrienne Lenore Tubby, Alexander Edgar Tucker, Clint W. Vowell, Cyrstal Gail Watkins, Kenneth W. Webster, Troy Dale White, Robert Byron Whitley, Hollie LeAnna Williams, Dustin Jay Wilson and Tiah Rae York.

UNION: Jessie Chunn, Amy Nicole Dolan, Shawn Micheal Giard, Michael G. Glenn, Marvin Eli Goss, Sandy Darnell Guess, Luke Benjamin Howell, Kristi M. Keene, Jennifer Magan Key, Lindsey Marie Knight, Staci R. Mann, Jammie L. Mason, Heather Dickerson Mathis, Meagan Lea McCorkle, Andrew William Nichols, Melissa Williams Overton,

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

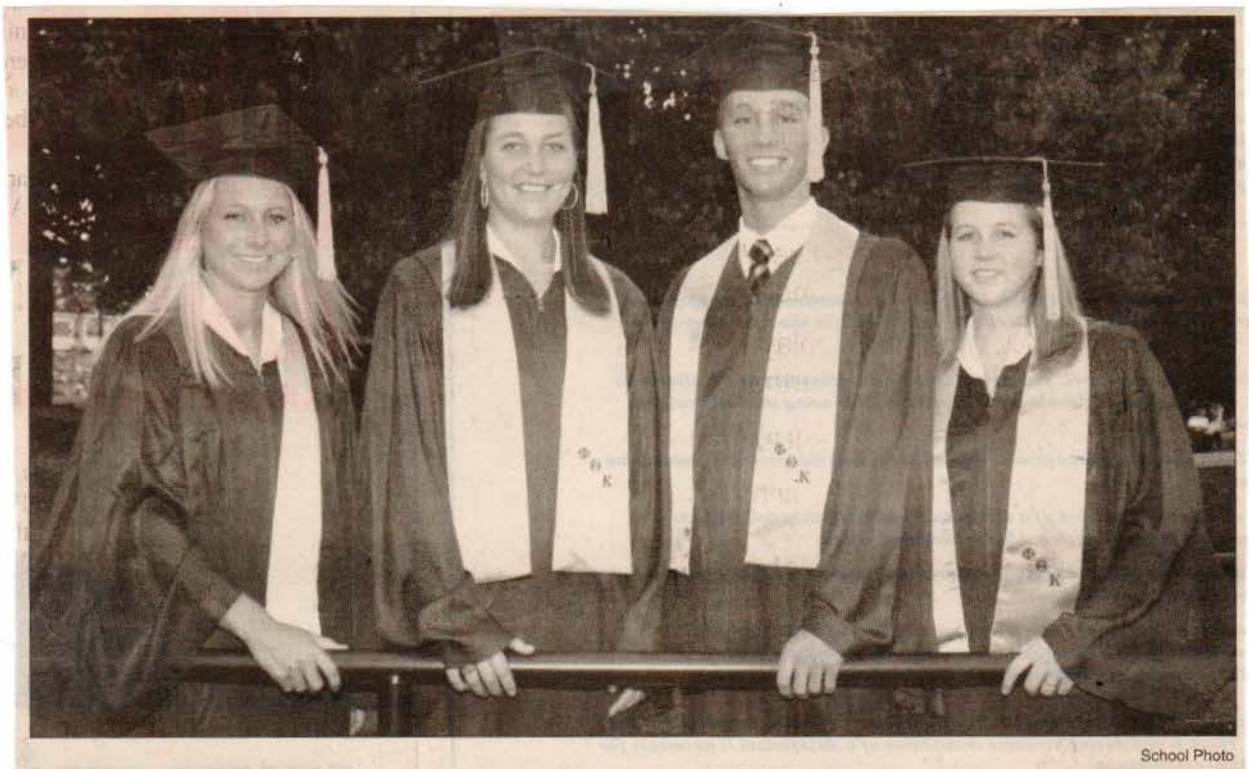
UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

IMPACT

WEEK OF 5-30-05



School Photo

These East Central Community College student-athletes were selected National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Academic All-Americans for the 2004-05 college term. Pictured are (from left) Kristin Chaney (softball and basketball) of Little Rock, Marley Smith (softball) of Union, Kyle Gordon (tennis) of Morton and Valerie Gibbs (tennis) of Newton, who were all named to the Distinguished List with a 3.8 grade point average or above. Not pictured is Roberto Orellana (tennis) of Forest, who was selected Academic All-American, with a 3.6 grade point average or above. Students who receive NJCAA Academic All-American honors must have completed three semesters of college work and participated in at least one season at the varsity level.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ✓
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓
UNION APPEAL ✓
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL
SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓
IMPACT

CARTHAGINIAN
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT X
NEWTON RECORD ✓
MERIDIAN STAR
CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF 5-30-05

Graduation

ECCC ADN graduates from Neshoba County

These Neshoba County students are 2005 graduates of the East Central Community College Associate Degree Nursing program. They were among 50 graduates honored during a pinning ceremony held May 13 on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (seated from left) Lola Beckham, Ashley Carter, Carla Chamblee, Heather Kelly, Rhonda Moore and Erin Nowell, all of Philadelphia; and (standing from left) Jodi Partridge, Kristi Partridge, Debbie Poole, Kimberly Smith, Staci Mann, Robert McPherson, Melissa Mayo, Jodi Burroughs, Martha Boswell and Carol Marie Brown, all of Philadelphia.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT X

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 5-30-2005

ECCC NURSING GRADUATES

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC ADN Graduates From Newton County: These Newton County students are 2005 graduates of the East Central Community College Associate Degree Nursing program. They were among 50 graduates honored during a pinning ceremony held May 13 on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (seated from left) Kacey Bender of Newton, Gloria Bishop of Decatur, Jami Blackburn of Newton and Billie McCure Lay of Decatur; and (standing from left) Carri Myers and Jay Gipson, both of Newton; Neil Knight of Decatur and Precious Moorehead of Newton.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

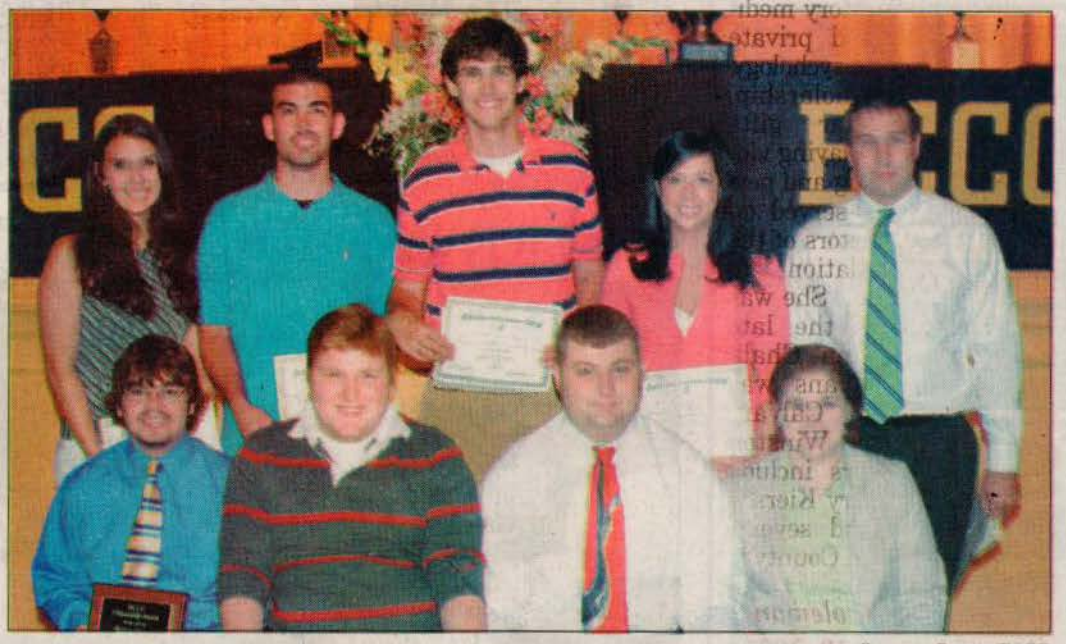
NEWTON RECORD X

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 5-30-05

Receive 'special' awards



COURTESY PHOTO/ECCC

These students received "special" awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 6 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (seated, from left) Brian Sibley of Newton, Citizenship; Chris Smith of Hickory, ECCC Players; and Jason Price of Walnut Grove and Elizabeth Tullos of Philadelphia, ECCC Singers; and (second row, from left) Julie Debord of Carthage, Richard Fisher Organic Chemistry Award; William Crenshaw of Philadelphia, Philadelphia-Neshoba County Arts Council Scholarship; Kurt Nelson of Hickory, Kappa Kappa Iota and Freshman Mathematics; and Jennifer Johnson of Philadelphia and Anthony Stanford of Louisville, Freshman Mathematics. Not pictured are Bradley Cook of Little Rock, The Tom-Tom newspaper staff; Eddie Smith of Decatur, ECCC Gospel Choir; and Rachel Edwards of Noxapater, East Central Environmental Club.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL X

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 5-30-05

Awards

They've got skills

COURTESY PHOTO/ECCC

These members of the East Central Community College SkillsUSA Club recently received top honors during state skills competition. All first place winners advance to the National SkillsUSA contest to be held June 20-24 in Kansas City, Missouri. Pictured are (front row, from left) Rachelle Graham of Little Rock and Ginger Richardson of Enterprise, first place, Opening and Closing; Christy Russell of Hillsboro, second place, Health Occupations Professional Portfolio; Megan McCorkle of Union and Meridith Carney of Quitman, third place, Chapter Business Procedures; and Coty Stokes of Nanih Waiya, first place, cabinetmaking; (second row, from left) Candy Chesney of Little Rock, third place, Chapter Business Procedures; Ginger Vance of Decatur and Amy Dolan of Union, first place, Opening and Closing; and Sylvia Majure of Philadelphia, second place, Health Occupations Professional Portfolio; (third row, from left) Amy McMillan of Forest, second place, Practical Nursing; Kellie Jo McGee of Hickory, first place, Opening and Closing; Tammy Baldwin of Forest, first place, Nurse Assisting; and Betty Belvin of Decatur, second place, Job Skills Demo B; and (back row, from left) Jana Smith of Union, first place, Opening and Closing; Brandon Lang of Edinburg, second place, Industrial Motor Control; John Creekmore of Noxapater, first place, CNC Milling; and Lucas Little of Hickory, second place, Precision Machining Technology. Not pictured are Samantha Partridge of Bailey, first place, Related Technical Math; Heather Mathis of Union and Tabitha Thomas of Meridian, first place, Promotional Bulletin Board; Kizzy Miller, second place, Pre-School Teaching Assistant; Jason Blair of Philadelphia, second place, Collision Repair Technology; Nathan Cumberland of Newton, second place, Heath Occupations Professional Portfolio; Crystal Hughes of Lena, third place, Extemporaneous Speaking; Tywon Davis of Philadelphia, third place, Major Appliance Technology; Randy Sanders of Carthage, third place, Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning; and Bridget Jordan of Noxapater and Dana Wilcher of Walnut Grove, third place, Chapter Business Procedures.

APPEARED

LAKE MES

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL X

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

IMPACT

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF 5-30-05

Receive Alumni Memorial awards

COURTESY PHOTO/ECCC

These students received Alumni Memorial awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 5 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (from left) Anthony Stanford of Louisville, Billy Wayne Baucum Secondary Education; John Franklin of Union, Ruth Carr-Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Nontraditional Education and W. A. Coursey, Jr. Engineering; Ama Burns of Louisville, Opal McMullan Dickerson Elementary Education; Cynthia Moody of Preston, Alatha Chaney English Award; Lori McMullan of Decatur, Sara Carr Deaton Business Technology; and Emily Massey of Forest, Sue Yarbrough Fulgham Speech; and (back row, from left) Raphael Wash of Forest, William S. Giffin Men,s Intramural; Justin Copeland of Philadelphia and Daniel Wood of Bay Springs, Homer F. Hunter Award for Athletic Managers; Shana Smith of Union, Jack B. Mayo Phi Theta Kappa; Julie Debord of Carthage, Dr. Edwin Miller Medical Services; Kristin Chaney of Little Rock, Earline Wood Basketball; and Clancy Cleveland of Union, Thomas W. Thrash Memorial. Not pictured are Andre Coleman of Louisville, Howard Sessums Basketball and Lashedrick Eichelberger of Noxapater, Andrew F. Webb Football.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓
UNION APPEAL _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL X
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN ✓
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓
NEWTON RECORD _____
MERIDIAN STAR _____
CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 5-30-05

ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVE ECCC FACULTY MEMORIAL AWARDS

These students received Faculty Memorial awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies recently held. Students and their respective awards include (from left) Heather Clearman of Decatur, J. Wallace Bedwell Business; Amanda McMillan of Newton, Frank M. Cross Freshman Chemistry; Claire Stinson of Meridian, Robert G. Fick Memorial Music and L. B. Simmons History; Kasey Hall of Lawrence, Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood Biology Science; and James Shackelford of Union, J. Andy Miller Freshman Engineering; and (second row, from left) Brant Winstead of Union, O.L. Newell Drafting; Sawaria Jones of Forest, Charles E. Pennington Business Technology; Tiffany Willis of Philadelphia, General William Patrick Wilson General Academic; Anna Waltman of Philadelphia, Ruth Hull Wo-He-Lo; and Keeley Morgan of Walnut Grove, Leon Eubanks Kaljyc-Peers.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES X

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

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WEEK OF 5-30-05

ECCC Senior day participants

Philadelphia High School seniors Charleigh Alford, second from left, Alex Burt and Laurel Allen were among area high school students attending Senior Day activities held at East Central Community College in Decatur. The campus guests are shown with Ann Smith, secretary to the director of admissions, records and research, in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building where information booths pertaining to academic, technical and career programs of study, clubs and organizations, and special interests were available for students. Approximately 840 students from the ECCC five-county district attended the annual event.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT X

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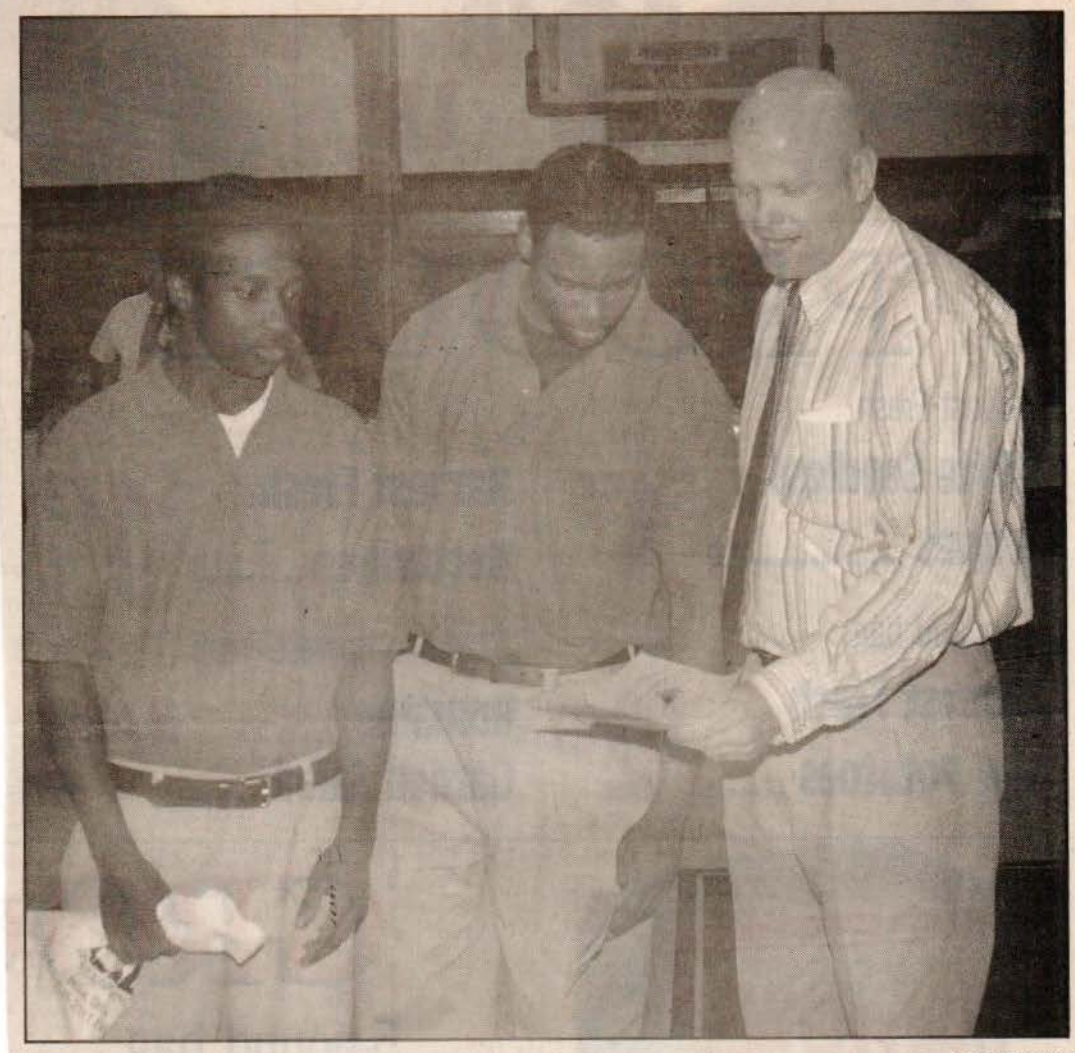
WEEK OF 5-30-05

ECCC SENIOR DAY



ECCC PHOTO

Attend ECCC Senior Day: Newton County High School seniors Kelo Tolbert (left) and Marcus Viverette (center) were among area high school students attending Senior Day activities held at East Central Community College in Decatur. The campus visitors are shown with Joe Killens, vice president for student services, in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building where information booths pertaining to academic, technical and career programs of study, clubs and organizations, and special interests were available for students. Entertainment for the special visitors was provided by the College jazz band, Ac'cents and the Collegians in Huff Auditorium. A complimentary lunch was served on the East Mall. Approximately 840 seniors from the ECCC five-county district attended the annual event.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD X

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 5-30-05

Scholarships

Receive MSU scholarships

COURTESY PHOTO/ECCC

These East Central Community College students received various transfer scholarships to Mississippi State University, which were presented during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 5 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Scholarship recipients include (seated from left) Anna Price of Louisville, Ashley Clark of Sturgis, Ronda Stroud of Louisville, Dinah Lachney of Decatur, Dru Fulton of Louisville and Heath Smylie of Decatur; and (standing, from left) Latisa Stewart and Liz Tullos, both of Philadelphia; Jessica Sheehan of Little Rock, Valerie Gibbs of Newton, Jennifer Johnson and Jami Jones, both of Philadelphia; and Zach Staton of Union. Also pictured is MSU admissions counselor John Dickerson, who presented the awards.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES X

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL X

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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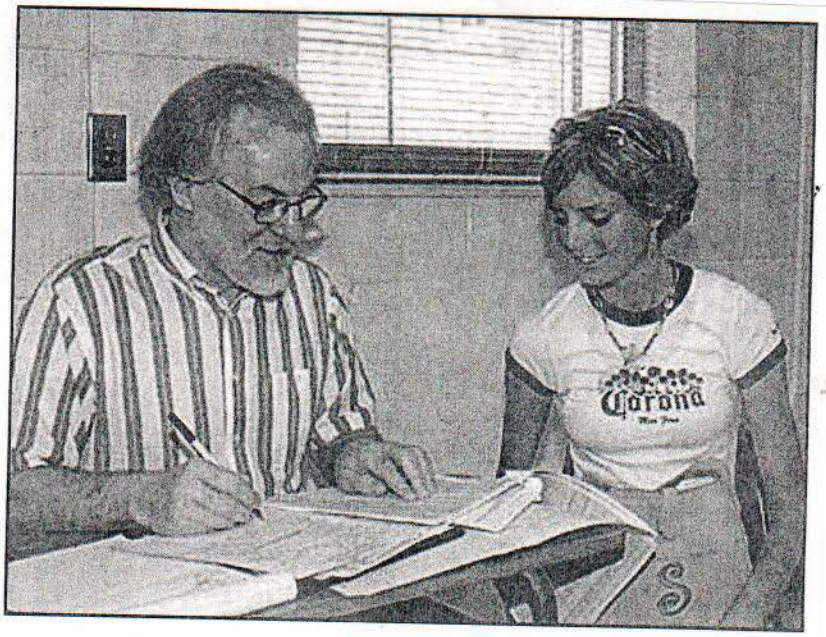
WEEK OF 6-6-05



Johnson attends ECCC orientation

Sheena Johnson (right) of Philadelphia was among the approximately 300 area students who attended Honors Orientation held June 3 at East Central Community College in Decatur. During orientation, students receive their approved class schedules for the fall semester, reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms and have photos made for identification cards. Johnson, a graduate of Raleigh High School, is shown planning her fall semester class schedule with assistance from speech/theater instructor Stan Tucker. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Saturday, June 18; Thursday, July 7; Wednesday, July 20; and Friday, Aug. 12. Fall classes begin Monday, Aug. 22. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 375. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT X

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 6-6-05

Hall attends ECCC Orientation

Neal Hall (right) of Philadelphia was among the approximately 300 students who attended Honors Orientation held June 3 at East Central Community College in Decatur. During orientation, students receive their approved class schedules for the fall semester, reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms and have photographs made for identification cards. Hall, a graduate of Neshoba Central High School, is shown planning his fall semester class schedule with assistance from English instructor Melinda Smith. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Saturday, June 8; Thursday, July 7; Wednesday, July 20; and Friday, Aug. 12. Fall classes begin Monday, August 22. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 375. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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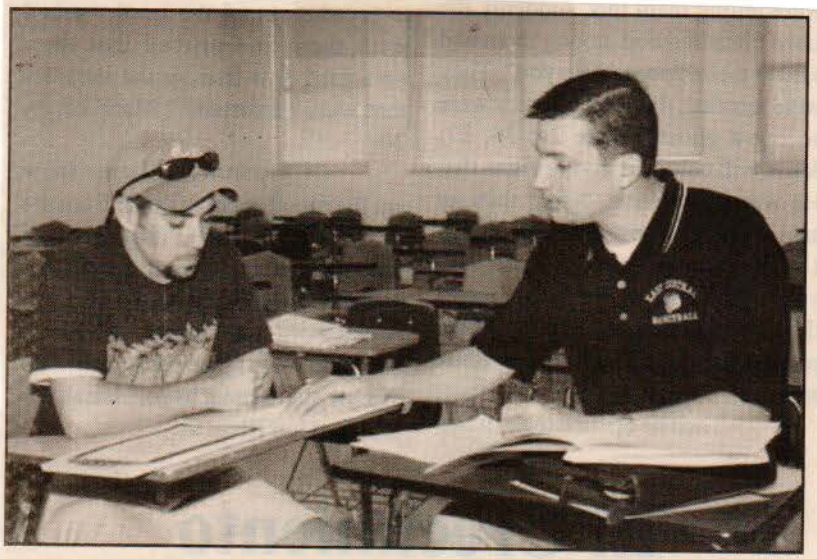
WEEK OF 6-6-05



Dilley Attends ECCC Orientation

Jess Dilley (left) of Forest was among the approximately 300 area students who attended Honors Orientation held June 3 at East Central Community College in Decatur. During orientation, students receive their approved class schedules for the fall semester, reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms and have photos made for identification cards. Dilley, a graduate of Forest High School, is shown planning his fall semester class schedule with assistance from Brad Hodge who serves as Lady Warrior head basketball coach and golf coach. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Saturday, June 18; Thursday, July 7; Wednesday, July 20; and Friday, August 12. Fall classes begin Monday, August 22. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 375. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON X

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF June 13, 2005

ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS

Morton High School graduates Tavarius Walker (second from left) and Jared Reeves (third from left) received scholarships given by Bank of Morton and will be attending East Central Community College in Decatur this fall. Also pictured are Walker's mother Tiffiney Lloyd (left) and Reeves' parents, James and Peggy Reeves. At right is bank representative Lindsley Keeton. The awards were presented during the College's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER		CARTHAGINIAN	
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES	X	NESHOBA DEMOCRAT	
UNION APPEAL		NEWTON RECORD	
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL		MERIDIAN STAR	
SPIRIT OF MORTON	X	CLARION-LEDGER	
IMPACT			

WEEK OF June 13, 2005

Fisher Receives Smith Scholarship to East Central Community College

Haley Fisher (standing left), a 2005 graduate of Sebastopol High School, is the recipient of the Jay B. and Frances Harris Smith Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was endowed in the fall of 2002 in memory of Mr. Smith and in honor of Mrs. Smith (right). Also pictured is Mrs. Smith's niece, Jo Harris. The award was presented during the College's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon.

—ECCC PHOTO

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES X

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF June 13, 2005

Russum Receives ECCC Alumni Association Scholarships

Daniel Russum (left), a 2005 graduate of Forest High School, and Brittany Alexander (center), a 2005 graduate of Newton County High School, are the recipients of the ECCC Alumni Association's Warrior Golf Classic Scholarships. These scholarships were established in 2002 from proceeds of the annual golf tournament. Pictured with the recipients is ECCC Alumni Association President Bill Lovett of Forest. The awards were presented during the College's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon.

—ECCC PHOTO

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER		CARTHAGINIAN	
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES	X	NESHOBA DEMOCRAT	
UNION APPEAL		NEWTON RECORD	
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL		MERIDIAN STAR	
SPIRIT OF MORTON		CLARION-LEDGER	
IMPACT			

WEEK OF June 13, 2005

Harrison Receives Sanders Memorial Scholarship to ECCC

Briccili Harrison (center), a 2005 graduate of Scott Central High School, is the recipient of the Charles Sanders Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 2000 and is awarded by the Forest/Scott County Civic Club. Representing the donors are Jean Cox (left) and Frank Edmondson (right). The award was presented during the College's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon.

—ECCC PHOTO

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES X

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

IMPACT

CARTHAGINIAN

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MERIDIAN STAR

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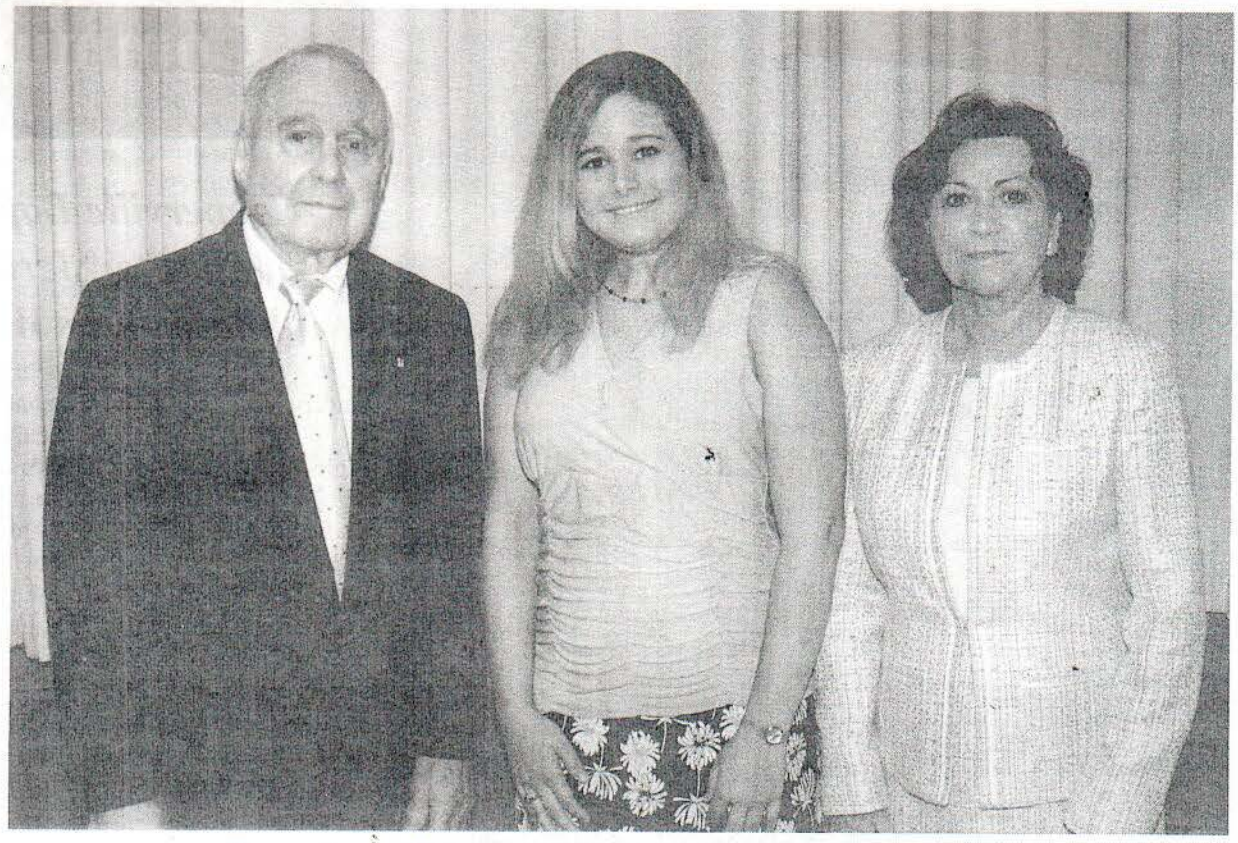

Receives Stevens Memorial Scholarship

Kristy Coley (center), a 2005 graduate of Morton High School, is the recipient of the Joanne Stevens Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 2003 by W. H. Stevens (left) of Forest in memory of his wife, a former principal and teacher at Morton Elementary School. The school's first-grade building is named in her honor. Also pictured is Mr. Stevens' daughter-in-law, Mary Stevens. The award was presented during the College's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, May 26, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

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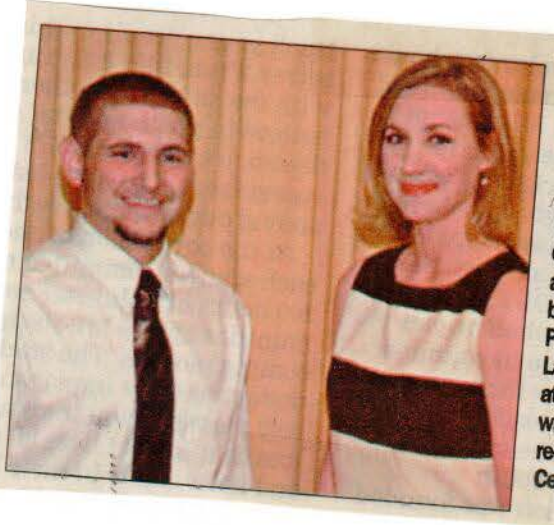

ECCC PHOTO

James Reeves (left), 2005 graduate of Morton High School, is the recipient of the Polk and Jennie Pace Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was established in 1997 by the family of Polk and Jennie Pace in memory of Mr. Lawrence Polk Pace, who attended EC in 1929. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Christi Gregory.

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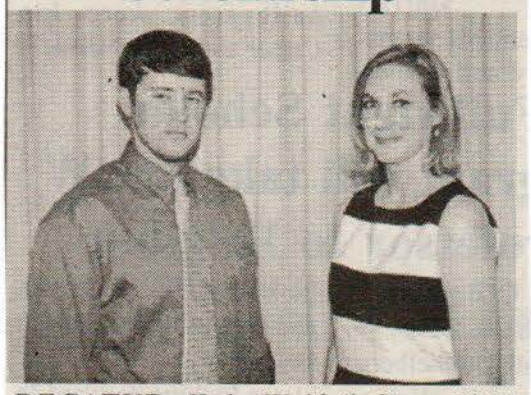
Receives Hannah Scholarship



DECATUR--Kyle Wolf (left), a 2005 graduate of Lake High School, is the recipient of the R.O. and Bertha Hannah Scholarship at East Central Community College. This scholarship was established in 1991 by the four sons of R.O. and Bertha Hannah, all of whom attended ECCC. The recipient is pictured with ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Christi Gregory. The award was presented during the College's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

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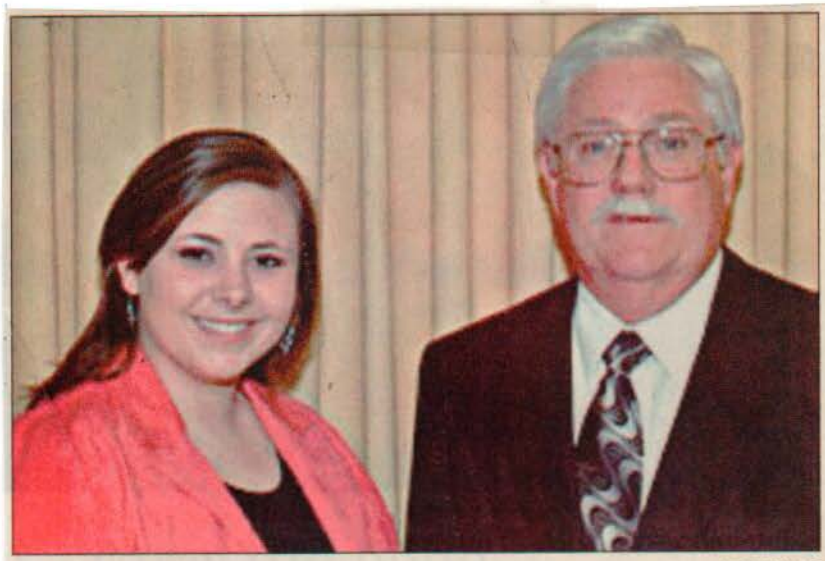

ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIP

Raquel Hollingsworth (left), a 2005 graduate of Scott Central High School, is the recipient of the Bank of Forest Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. She is pictured with bank representative Charles R. Sanders. The award was presented during the College's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon.

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Receive Harrison Memorial Scholarships.... These students are the recipients of the Harrison Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was established by friends of Ricky and Janean Harrison of Little Rock to honor the memory of their children, Crystal and C.J., who were killed in an automobile accident in 1993. Pictured are (seated, from left) Kelsi Ables, Brittany Alexander and Krista Chaney, all 2005 graduates of Newton County Academy; and (standing, from left) Jordan Robinson, a 2005 graduate of Union High School, and Corey Gressett, a 2005 graduate of Newton County High School. Representing the donors is Rev. Keith Rammage (standing right) of Beulah Baptist Church. The award was presented during the College's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, May 26, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. *(EC Photo)*

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 6-6-05

Receive ECCC technical awards

COURTESY PHOTO/ECCC

These students received technical awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 5 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (seated, from left) Trey White of Philadelphia, automotive technology; Jeania Clayton of Hickory, child development technology; Betty Dodd of Carthage, computer technology; and Larry Brantley of Forest, electrical technology; and (standing, from left) Jacqueline Miller of Noxapater, gerontology technology; David Black of Forest, electronic technology; Lucas Little of Hickory, machine shop technology; Nolan Burchfield of McCool, computer network support technology; and Faith Hessenius of Louisville, "Technical Student of the Year." Not pictured are Jason Blair of Philadelphia and William James of Shubuta, collision repair technology award recipients..

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WEEK OF 6-6-05

Receive ECCC 'special' awards

COURTESY PHOTO/ECCC

These students were among those receiving "special" awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 5 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (seated, from left) John A. Franklin of Union, Sophomore Mathematics; Misty Smith of Decatur, Mississippi Community College Creative Writing Association; Cynthia Moody of Preston, Secondary Education; Daniel Warren of Meridian, S. Lebrun Hutchison Engineering; Elizabeth Richardson of Preston, Myrtle R. Hutchison Elementary Education; Jaimee Jones of Louisville, Phi Theta Kappa Margaret Mosal Award for Leadership; and Laura Foreman of Little Rock, Ann Burkes Phi Theta Kappa; and (second row, from left) Cynthia Brantley of Newton and Sharon Griffin of Conehatta, Mississippi Business Educators Association Student Awards; Nakecia Buckley of Philadelphia, Alyne Simmons Recruitment Grant; Alan Krajewski of Louisville, Associate Degree Nursing Outstanding Achievement; Ryan Stewart of Meridian, Roy Pete Award for Soccer; Ryan Hudson of Louisville, Anthony Coleman Men,s Basketball; and Kristin Chaney of Little Rock and Marley Smith of Union, Walter Arno Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Athletics. Not pictured is Darren Reed of Newton, Spanish.

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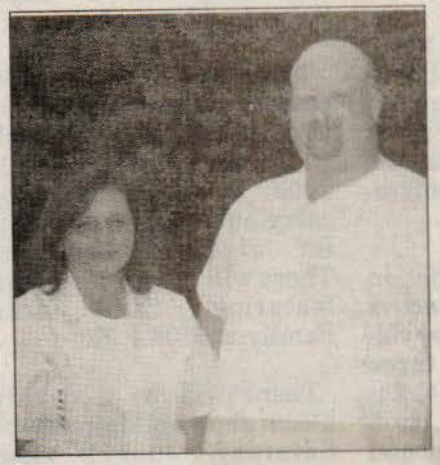
Receive nursing degrees



COURTESY PHOTO/ECCC

Alisa Duncan (left) and Alan Krajewski, both of Louisville, are 2005 graduates of the Associate Degree Nursing program at East Central Community College in Decatur. They were among 50 students honored during a pinning ceremony held May 13.

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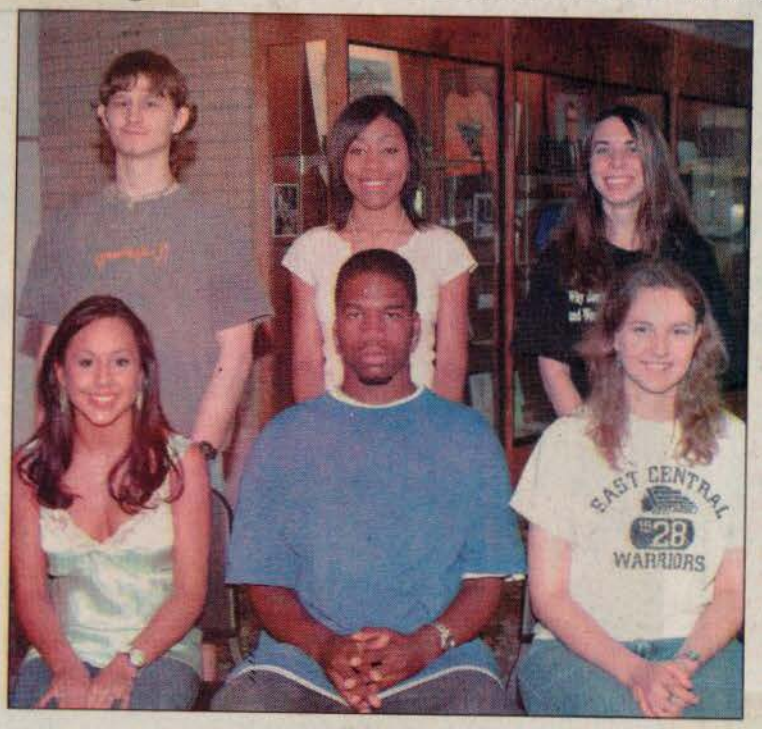
'Design' award winners in ECCC art show



COURTESY PHOTO/ECCC

These students received top honors in the Design category of the annual East Central Community College Spring Juried Art Show. Pictured are (seated, from left) Megan Harrell, first place, of Forest; Darius Bobbit, second, and Even Snell, third, both of Lake; and (standing, from left) honorable mention recipients Chris Shuler of Harperville, Amy Hathorn of Louisville and Sandy Guess of Union. Bruce Guraedy and Jill Hammes serve as instructors.

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ECCC Students Receive USM Scholarships ~ These East Central Community College students received various transfer scholarships to the University of Southern Mississippi, which were presented during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 5 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Scholarship recipients include (from left) Courtney Hollingsworth of Forest, Erin Yelverton of Decatur, Amy Ealy of Forest, Kristin Chaney of Little Rock and Shana Smith of Union. At right is USM admissions counselor Melanie Walters, who presented the scholarships. (EC Photo)

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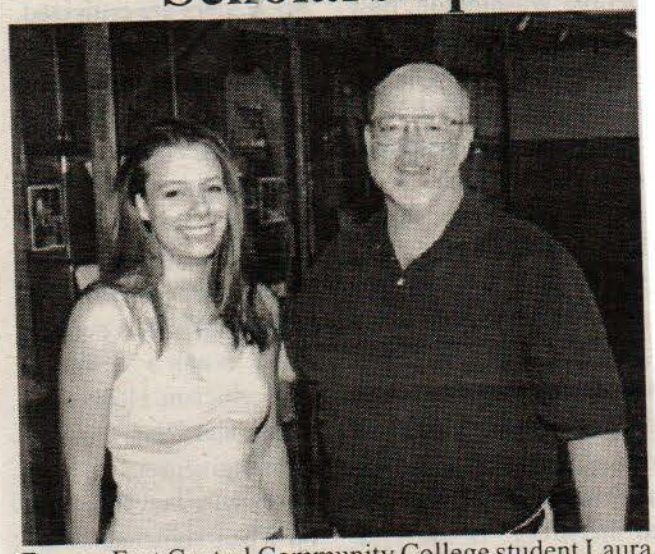
Shook Presented USM Scholarship



Former East Central Community College student Laura Shook (left) of Lawrence was recently presented the Charlie and Lorita Finnegan Endowment for the Arts scholarship to attend the University of Southern Mississippi. Shook is a 2004 graduate of ECCC, where she received an art service scholarship and participated in drama productions. She was also a member of the Baptist Student Union. The Newton High School graduate is pictured with Fine Arts Chairman and art instructor Bruce Guraedy. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 6-13-05

Receives Arts Council Scholarship

Sophomore Cassidy Crenshaw (center) of Philadelphia is the recipient of the 2005 Philadelphia/Neshoba County Arts Council Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured with the recipient are his parents, William and Cindy Crenshaw. The award was presented during the college's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, May 26, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

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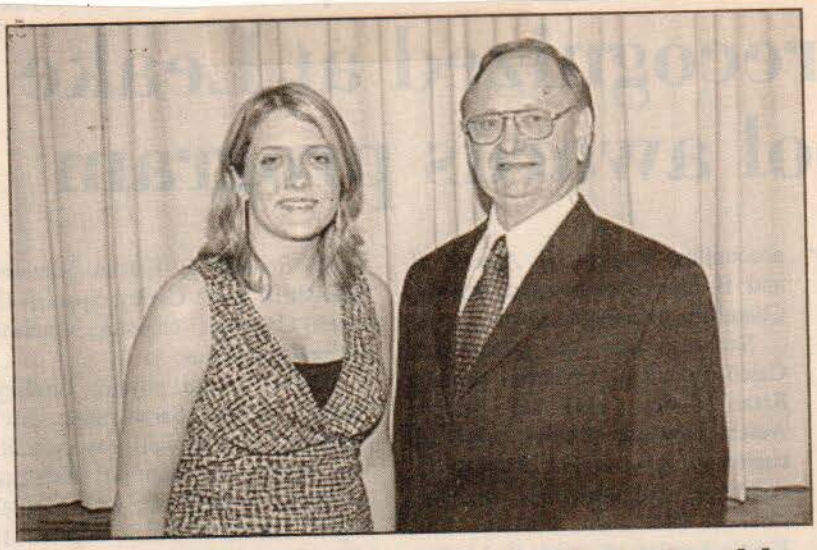

Receives Board of Trustees Scholarship

Ashley Dunn (left), a 2005 graduate of Neshoba Central High School, is the recipient of the Board of Trustees Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured with the award recipient is Board member Edsel Cliburn of Union. The award was presented during the college's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, May 26, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

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Receives Philadelphia Sertoma Scholarship

Celeste Burt (left), a 2005 graduate of Neshoba Central High School, is the recipient of the Philadelphia Sertoma Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 2000 by the Sertoma Club as part of their emphasis on education. Representing the club is Doug Daly. The award was presented during the college's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, May 26, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF June 13, 2005

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC ADN GRADUATES

These Scott County students are 2005 graduates of the East Central Community College Associate Degree Nursing program. They were among 50 graduates honored during a pinning ceremony held May 13 on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (from left) Stacy Harris, Veronica Harrison, Rochelle Reid and Lance Sigrest, all of Forest.

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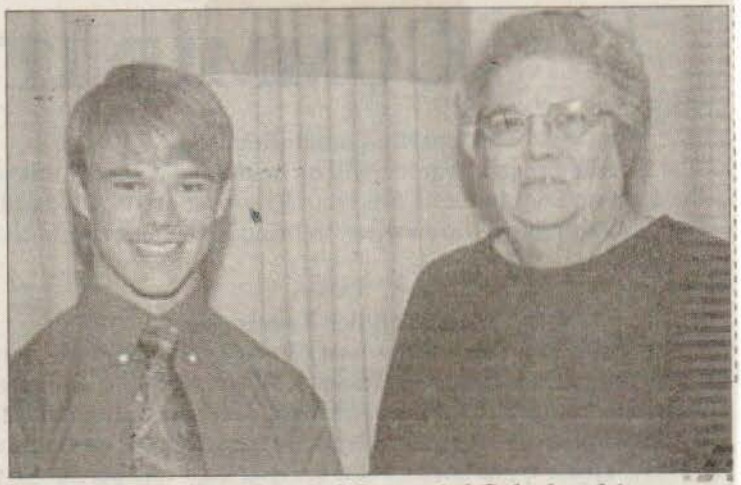

Receives Shelby Harris Memorial Scholarship... East Central Community College sophomore Casey Shackelford (left) of Union is the recipient of the 2005 Shelby Harris Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship was endowed in May 2002 in memory of Dr. Harris, a longtime mathematics instructor and Phi Theta Kappa advisor, and is presented to a returning sophomore. Representing the family is Ann Burkes (right), who served with Harris for many years as co-adviser of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college.

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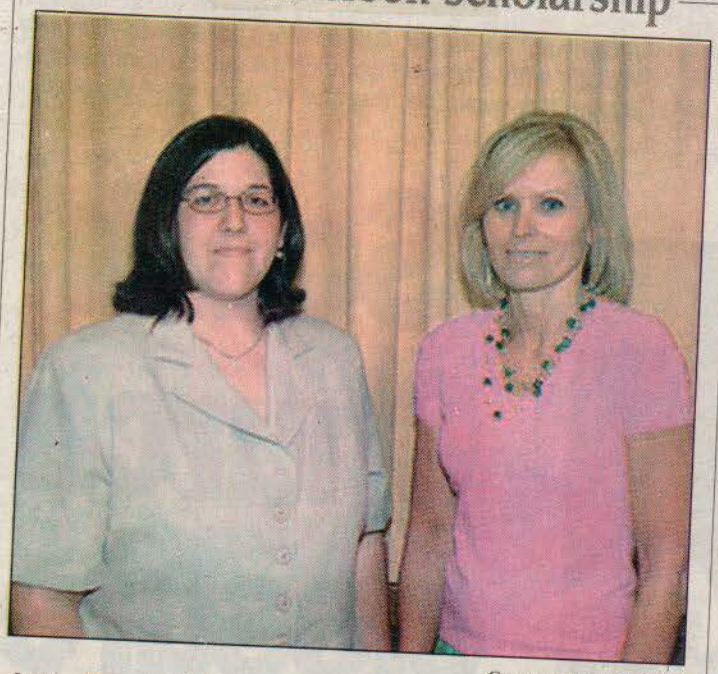
Receives Dickerson scholarship



COURTESY PHOTO/ECCC

Ama Burns (left), a 2005 graduate of East Central Community College, is the recipient of the Opal McMullan Dickerson Scholarship, awarded to an outgoing elementary education major to continue his or her education. Burns is the daughter of Dean and Brenda Perry of Louisville. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC academic counselor Lanette Hanna. The award was presented during the College's annual Bell SouthScholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, May 26, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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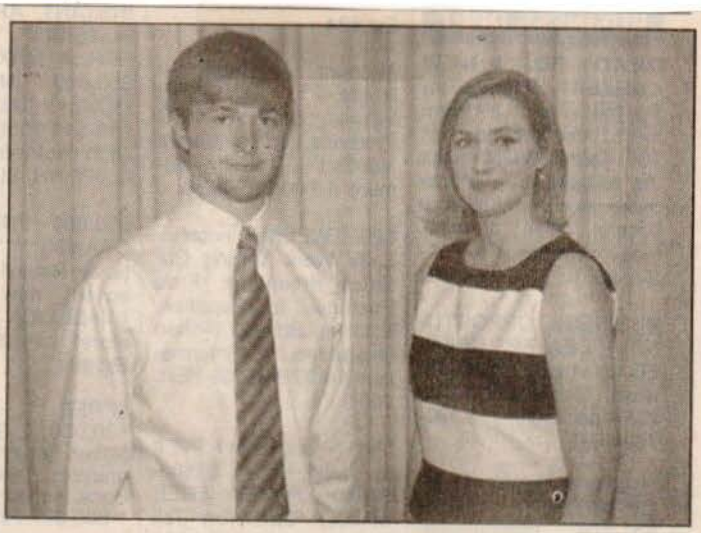

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

RECEIVES BELLSOUTH SCHOLARSHIP: Jamie Farmer (left), a 2005 graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the BellSouth Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 2002 by BellSouth Communications. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center Director Christi Lee. The award was presented during the College's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, May 26, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

RECEIVES BEEMON SCHOLARSHIP: Newton County Academy graduate Kelsi Ables (left) is the recipient of the 2005 T.T. Beemon Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Beemon scholarship was established in 2001 by T.T. Beemon, ECCC Class of 1937, and his wife, the former Mary Emma Fancher. Representing the donors is Col. Albert Smith of Mascotte, Fla. The award was presented during the College's annual BellSouth Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, May 26, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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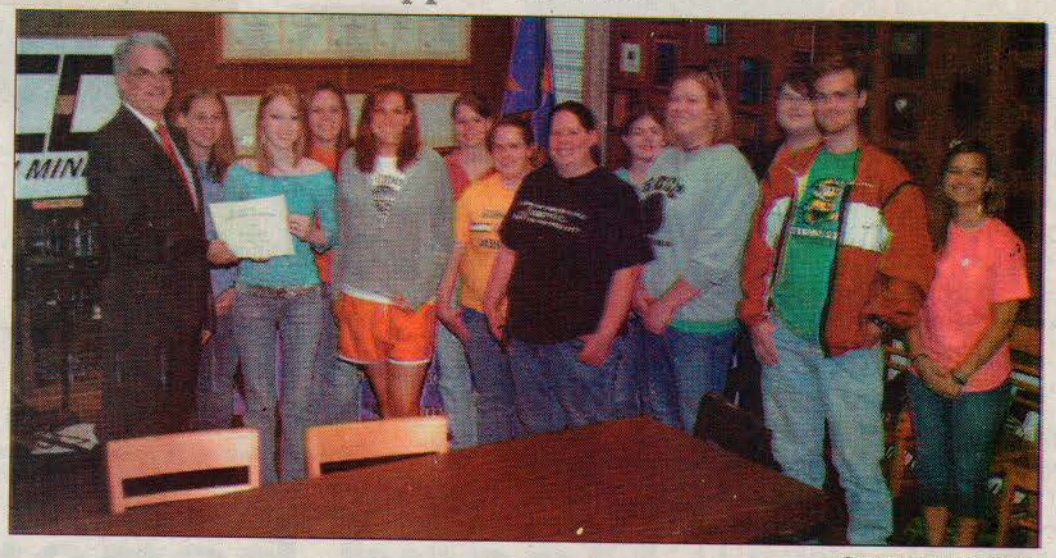
ECCC Phi Theta Kappa honored



COURTESY PHOTO/ECCC

East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, was recognized as one of the top 100 chapters at the organization's international convention held April 14-16 in Dallas, Texas. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin is shown presenting the award to Theta Xi officers and members who include (front row, from left) Shana Smith of Union, vice president for leadership; Dru Fulton of Louisville, historian; Faith Hessenius of Louisville, vice president for scholarship; Courtnee Graham of Preston, president; Joseph Lathem of Walnut Grove and Jaimee Jones of Louisville; and (back row, from left) Crystal Tull of Carthage, Kasey Hall of Lawrence, Laura Foreman of Little Rock, Courtney Averett of Conehatta, Claire Stinson of Meridian and Chris Rush of Union.

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Receives Myers Scholarship

Jeannie Triplett, a 2005 graduate of Neshoba Central High School, is the recipient of the Ben Myers Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 1997 in memory of Ben Myers, a 1997 EC graduate and former Mr. East Central Community College. Pictured with the recipient ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Christi Gregory. The awards were presented during the college's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, May 26, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

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Receives Wilson Scholarship

East Central Community College sophomore Tiffany Willis (left) of Philadelphia is the recipient of the 2005 General William Patrick Wilson Memorial Scholarship. The recipient is pictured with Stacey Hollingsworth, administrative assistant in the Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations. The award was presented during the college's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, May 26, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

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Receives Citizens Bank Scholarship... Joshua Skinner (left), a 2005 graduate of Union High School, is the recipient of the Citizens Bank of Philadelphia Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Representing the bank is Ken Jones, president of the bank's Decatur branch. *(EC Photo)*

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Receives Vowell Scholarship

DECATUR--Erik Alexander (left), a 2005 graduate of Lake High School, is the recipient of the Lavern and Elizabeth Vowell Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 1993 by the couple's children. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Christi Gregory. The award was presented during the College's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, May 26, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

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ECCC AWARDS

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

RECEIVES BREAZEALE MINISTERIAL SCHOLARSHIP: Newton County High School graduate Taylor Nichols (left) is the recipient of the 2005 Paul and Voncile Breazeale Ministerial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Breazeale Scholarship was established in 1995 for a student who plans to major in an area that will prepare them for the ministry. Representing the family is Paul Breazeale of Jackson. The award was presented during the College's annual BellSouth Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, May 26, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

RECEIVES BURKES SCHOLARSHIP: East Central Community College sophomore Laura Foreman, a graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the 2005 Ann H. Burkes Scholarship. Established in 1999 to honor the life and works of Ann Hunter Burkes (right) of Decatur, a longtime employee and Phi Theta Kappa advisor at East Central, this scholarship is awarded to a returning Phi Theta Kappa member. The award was presented during the College's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, May 26, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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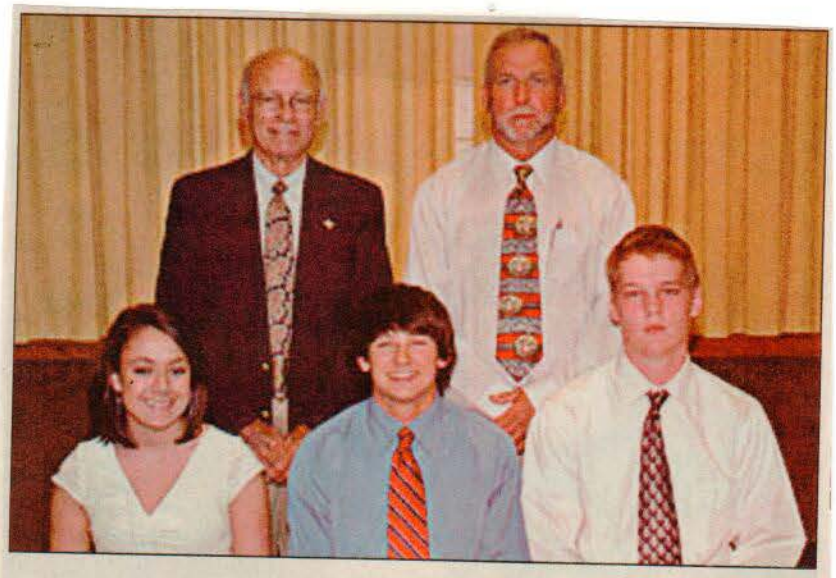
WEEK OF 6-13-05



ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIP

Recipients of the 2005 Mississippi Association of Supervisors Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur include (seated from left) Megan Winstead of Neshoba Central High School, Justin Hunter of Sebastopol High School and Anthony Loper of Carthage High School. These scholarships were established in 1996 by the state association of supervisors and rotate alphabetically by county each year. Representing the donors are Harold K. Reynolds (standing left), President of the Neshoba County Board of Supervisors, and Joe Any Helton (standing right), President of the Leake County Board of Supervisors. The awards were presented during the College's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES X

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

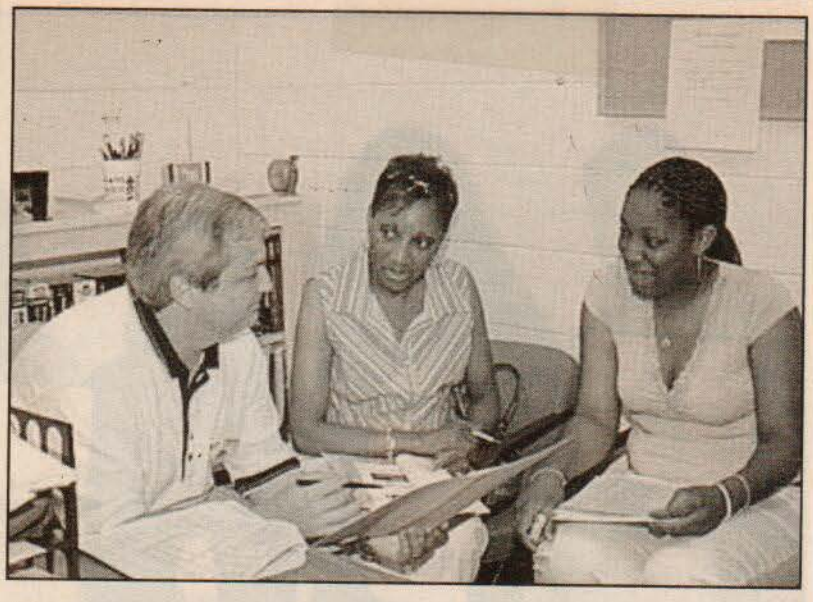
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 6-13-05



Payne attends ECCC orientation

Rayteshia Payne (center) of Philadelphia was among the approximately 300 students who attended Honors Orientation held June 3 at East Central Community College in Decatur. During orientation, students receive their approved class schedules for the fall semester, reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms and have photographs made for identification cards. Payne, a graduate of Neshoba Central High School, is shown planning her fall semester class schedule with assistance from computer network support technology instructor Thomas Fortenberry. Also pictured is new ECCC student's mother, Sharon Stribling. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Saturday, June 18; Thursday, July 7; Wednesday, July 20; and Friday, Aug. 12. Fall classes begin Monday, Aug. 22. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 375. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT X

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 6-13-05

Agee attends ECCC orientation

Delynn Agee of Philadelphia was among the approximately 300 students who attended Honors Orientation held June 3 at East Central Community College in Decatur. During orientation, students receive their approved class schedules for the fall semester, reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms and have photographs made for identification cards. Agee, a graduate of Choctaw Central High School, is shown planning her fall semester class schedule with assistance from business technology instructor Christy Ferguson. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Saturday, June 18; Thursday, July 7; Wednesday, July 20; and Friday, Aug. 12. Fall classes begin Monday, Aug. 22. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 375. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

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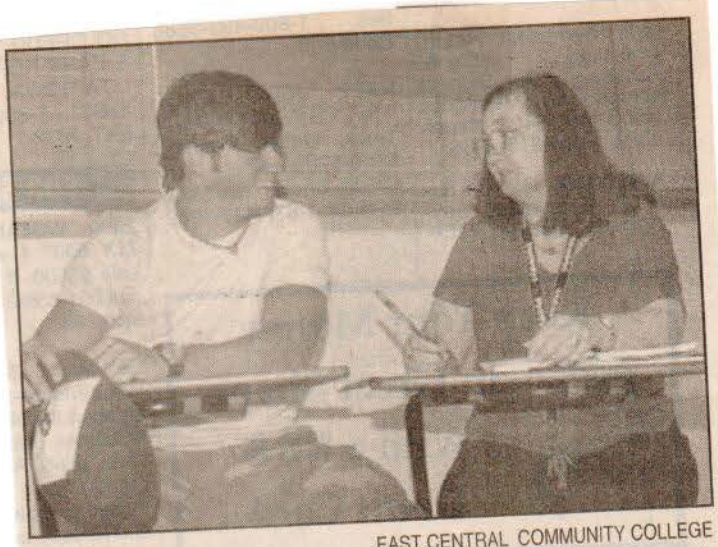
WEEK OF 6-13-05



EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

BLACKBURN ATTENDS ECCC ORIENTATION: Lee Blackburn (left) of Lawrence was among the approximately 300 students who attended Honors Orientation held June 3 at East Central Community College in Decatur. During orientation, students receive their approved class schedules for the fall semester, reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms and have photos made for identification cards. Blackburn, a Newton County Academy graduate, is shown planning his fall semester class schedule with assistance from biology instructor Patti Davis. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Saturday, June 18; Thursday, July 7; Wednesday, July 20; and Friday, August 12. Fall classes begin Monday, August 22. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 375. The email address is <mailto:jkillens@eccc.edu>jkillens@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD X

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 6-13-05

Numerous Neshoba countians attend ECCC honors orientation

Numerous students from Neshoba County attended Honors Orientation held June 3 at East Central Community College in Decatur.

During orientation, students receive their approved class schedules for the fall semester, reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms and have photos made for identification cards.

Area students who participated in orientation activities and their respective high schools include the following:

Choctaw Central High School: Delynn Agee, Joe Bell and Quintara Gibson, all of Philadelphia; and Larisha Johnson, Conehatta.

Neshoba Central High School: Ramon Agurrie, Choctaw; Wade Atkins, Chasity Anderson, Joseph Arledge, Douglas Bankston, Savannah Barksdale, Thomas

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT X

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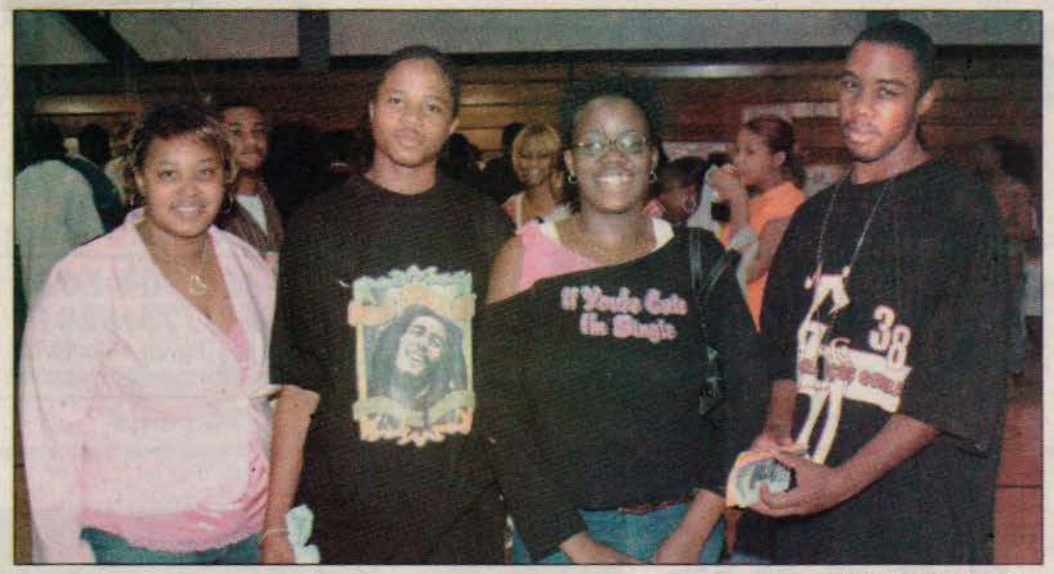
WEEK OF 6-13-05

LHS students attend ECCC Senior Day



COURTESY PHOTO/ECCC

Louisville High School seniors (from left) Jameela Hannah, Tavaris Welch, Shakia Metts and Jeremy Gill were among area high school students attending Senior Day activities held at East Central Community College in Decatur. The campus guests are pictured in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building where information booths pertaining to academic, technical and career programs of study, clubs and organizations, and special interests were available for the visiting seniors. Students were also entertained by the College jazz band, Ac'cents and Collegians during performances held in Huff Auditorium. A complimentary lunch was provided on the East Mall. Approximately 840 seniors from the ECCC five-county district attended the annual event.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL X

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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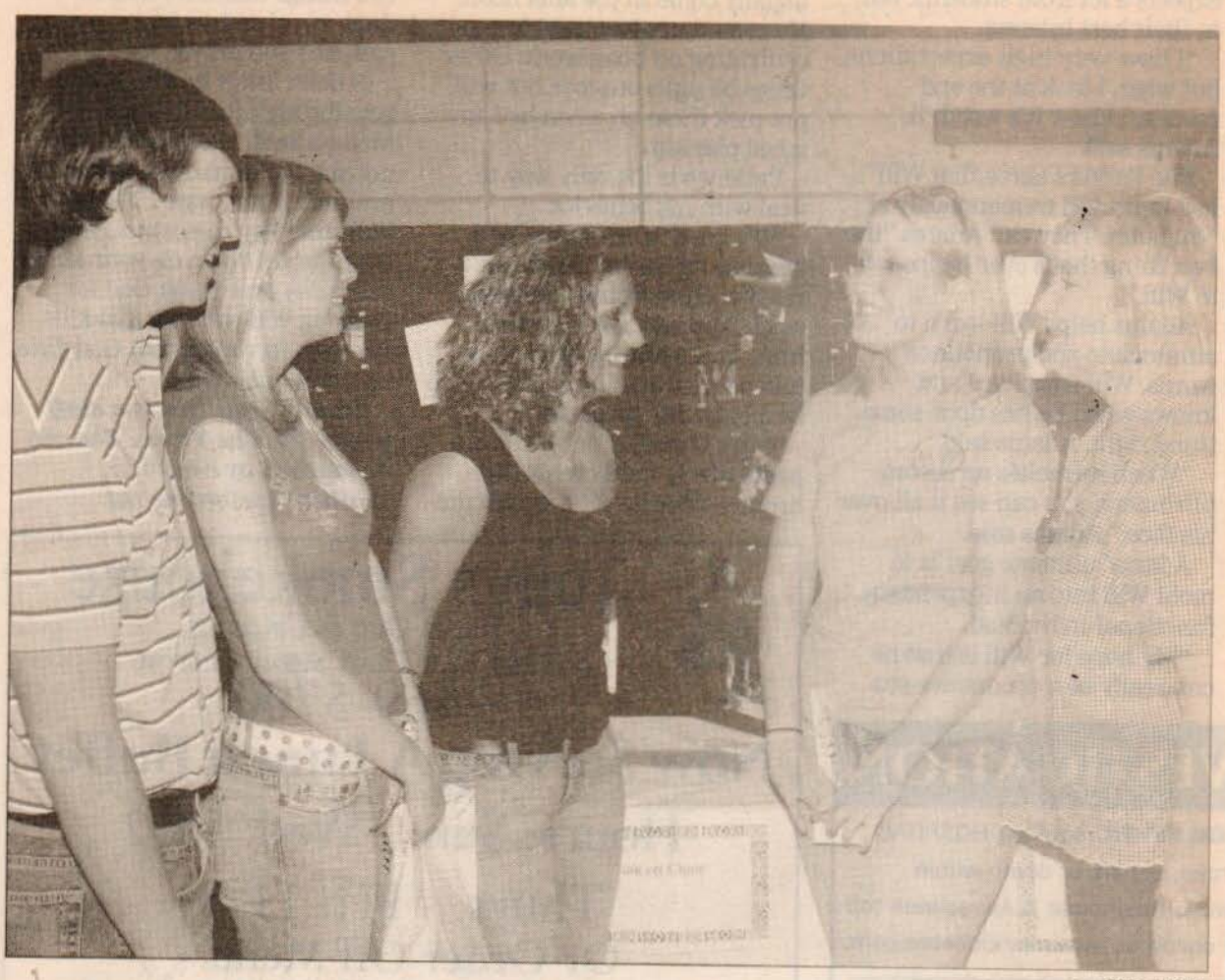
CLARION-LEDGER _____

Events

WEEK OF June 20



ECCC PHOTO

ATTEND ECCC SENIOR DAY

Morton High School seniors Tavarius Walker (left) and Amy Cobern (center) were among area high school students attending Senior Day activities held at East Central Community College in Decatur. The campus guests are shown visiting with biology instructor Ron Davis at one of the many information booths available for students in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Entertainment for the special visitors was provided by the College jazz band, Ac'cents and the Collegians in Huff Auditorium. A complimentary lunch was also provided on the East Mall. Approximately 840 seniors from the ECCC five-county district attended the annual event.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF June 20

Ann Claire Foshee (left), a 2005 graduate of Newton County Academy, and Tiffany Thomas (center), a 2005 graduate of Union High School, are the recipients of the Newton Rotary Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur. The awards were presented during the College's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, May 26, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

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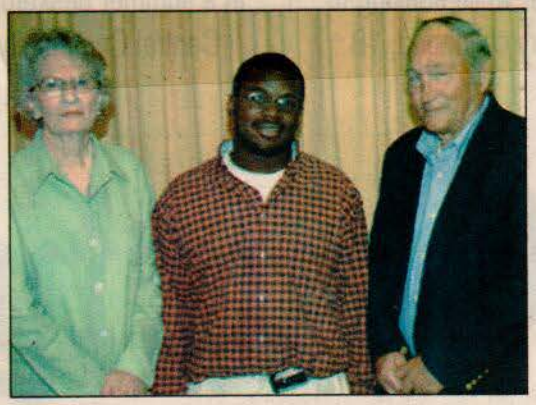
WEEK OF June 20



Hayes receives Wilkerson Scholarship to East Central

Charles Hayes (center), a 2005 graduate of Forest High School, is the recipient of the Bob Wilkerson Memorial Vo-Tech Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured with the recipient are Robert and Patsy Wilkerson, who established the scholarship in 2003 in memory of their son, Bob, a graduate of Forest High School. The award was presented during the College's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held May 26, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

—ECCC PHOTO

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 6/20/05

Receives Thomas Scholarship

Chelsea Bostick, a 2005 graduate of Philadelphia High School, is the recipient of the Charles and Judy Dowdle Thomas Scholarship at East Central Community College. The award, which was established by the Thomases in 1997, was presented during the college's annual BellSouth Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, May 26, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 6/20/05

Receives Farm Bureau Scholarship

Deena Dansby, LUTCF, insurance agent with Farm Bureau, was recently elected to the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors as regional vice president on the state level. She is shown presenting a $2,000 scholarship from NAIFA to recipient Megan Winstead. Winstead is the daughter of Dudley and Diane Winstead and will attend East Central Community College this fall.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 6/20/05

Receives Clayton Blount Scholarship

Briana Nicole Stinson, a 2005 graduate of Neshoba Central High School, is the recipient of the Clayton Blount Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in honor of Coach Blount in1995 by his former players. During his employment at ECCC from 1953 to 1970, Blount served in various capacities including physical education teacher, coach, dean of men and athletic director. The award was presented during the college's annual BellSouth Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, May 26, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

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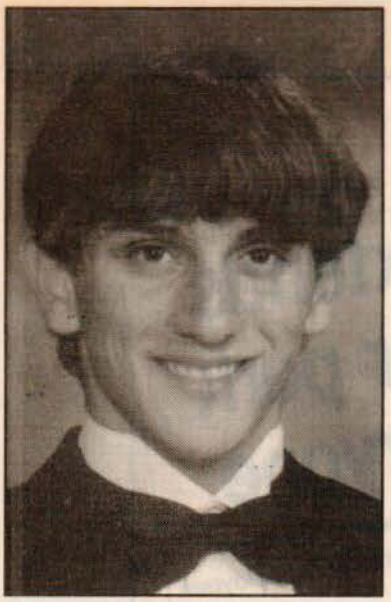
CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 6/20/05



Receives Dallas Scholarship

Neshoba Central High School graduate Eric Herrington is the 2005 recipient of the Fred and Maudie Dallas Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was established in 1991 to assist deserving graduates of Neshoba Central High School who reside in the southeast quarter of Neshoba County. It was established and funded by the children of Mr. and Mrs. Dallas in their memory and in honor of their interest in education. Seven of Mr. and Mrs. Dallas' eight children attended what was then known as East Central Junior College. The award was presented during the college's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, May 26. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

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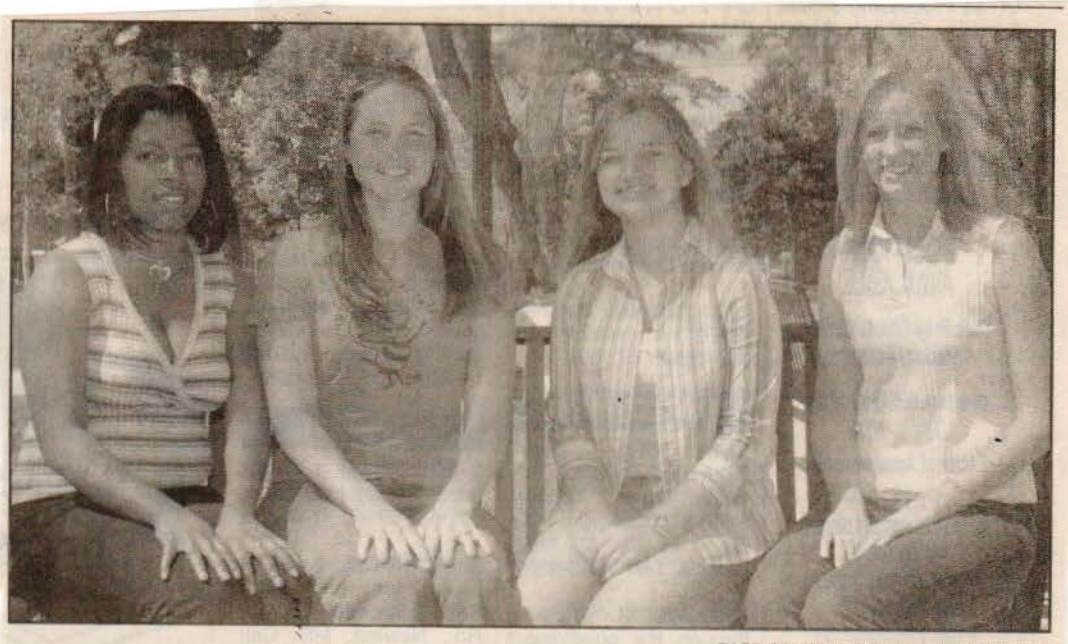
CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF June 20



EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ECCC SBA Officers: These students were recently elected to lead the Student Body Association for the 2005-06 term at East Central Community College. From left, President Keely Morgan of Walnut Grove, Vice President Joy Cavenaugh of Chunky, Secretary Jammie Jones of Nanih Waiya and Treasurer Clancy Cleveland of Union.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER	✓	CARTHAGINIAN	
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES	✓	NESHOBA DEMOCRAT	✓
UNION APPEAL		NEWTON RECORD	✓
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL		MERIDIAN STAR	✓
SPIRIT OF MORTON		CLARION-LEDGER	
IMPACT			

WEEK OF 6/20/05

Receives Myers Scholarship

Alex Deason, a 2005 graduate of Philadelphia High School, is the recipient of the Ben Myers Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 1997 in memory of Ben Myers, a 1997 ECCC graduate and former Mr. East Central Community College. The award was presented during the college's annual BellSouth Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, May 26, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

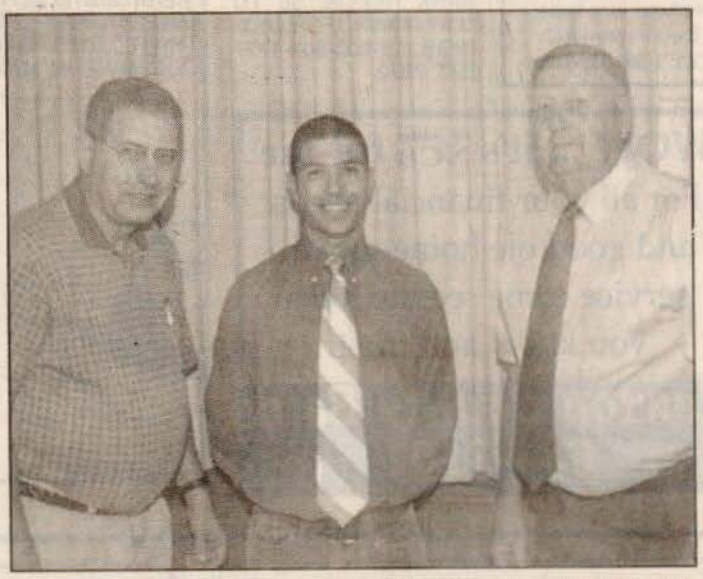
NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF June 20

ECCC SCHOLARSHIP



EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Receives Richard Harris Scholarship: Sophomore Micah Lanier (left) of Little Rock, a graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the Richard Harris Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 2003 by Dr. Harold Aycock (left) in honor of his high school basketball coach, Richard Harris (right), who taught and coached in Newton County for over 40 years. The award was presented during the College's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, May 26, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF June 20

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

RECEIVES THOMAS EC SCHOLARS SCHOLARSHIP: Newton County High School graduate Maggie McDill (left) is the 2005 recipient of the James and Luvie Thomas EC Scholars Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Established by the College in 1999, individuals, businesses or groups can supply these scholarships, presented to students who are in the top 10 percent of their class. Representing the family are Carol Thomas Barnes (right) of Shreveport, La., and Luvie Thomas (seated) of Starkville. The award was presented during the College's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, May 26, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF June 20

Numerous Scott Countians Attend ECCC Honors Orientation

Numerous students from Scott County attended Honors Orientation held June 3 at East Central Community College in Decatur.

During orientation, students receive their approved class schedules for the fall semester, reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms and have photos made for identification cards.

Area students who participated in orientation activities and their respective high schools include the following:

Forest High School: Brent Barton, Wade Brown, Brandon Chambers, Jess Dilley, Lauren Estes, Zachary Foreman, Jerrica Gowdy, Charles Hayes, Jason Hurdle, Nikki Lewis, Jami Maner, Sarah Mathis, Kyle McCormick, Rebecca Myers, Iwana Rankin, Heather Richardson, William Rigby, Grady Rogers, Daniel Russum, Courtney Stingley and Mary Stubbs, all of Forest; and Jessica Windham, Pulaski.

Scott Central High School: Kimberly Bassett, Christopher Bufkin, Casey Cooper, Martin Dearing, Briccilli Harrison, Raquel Hollingsworth, Sarah Sullivan, Megan Thomas, Kimberly Thompson, Laura Ware and Lee Ware, all of Forest; and Elyse Clay, Lena.

Lake Attendance Center: Erik Alexander and Cynthia Johnson, both of Forest; and Adam Brown, Brittany Gibbs, Valerie Harris, Jennifer Ickom, Leslie Nester, Nikki Richardson and Kyle Wolf, all of Lake.

Morton Attendance Center: Jessie Burkes, Mount Olive; Amanda Gatewood and Jimmy Lott, both of Lena; Jordan Gibbs, Forest; and Christopher Parker, James Reeves, Kenya Singleton and Victory Warnsley, all of Morton.

Sebastopol Attendance Center: Joseph Dorsey, Robyn Griffin and Brittany McDill, all of Conehatta; Haley Fisher and Courtney Johnson, both of Walnut Grove; Justin Hunter, Sebastopol; John Kelley, Philadelphia; and Bethany Sharp, Forest.

Also attending the June 3 orientation session from Scott County included James Wintzel of Forest.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 6/27/05

ECCC PHOTO

PEN AND INK AWARD WINNERS IN ECCC ART SHOW

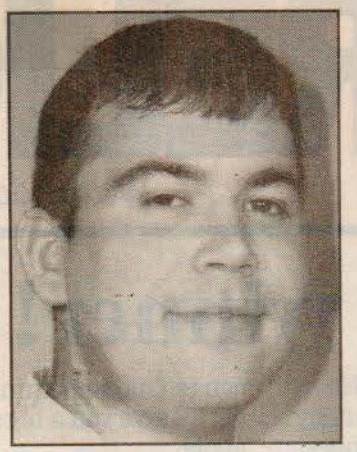
These students received top honors in the Pen and Ink/Inkwash category of the annual East Central Community College Spring Juried Art Show. Pictured are (seated, from left) Jasper Gant, first place, of Kosciusko; Amy Hathorn, second and third, of Louisville; and Trellis Skinner, honorable mention, of Decatur; and (standing, from left) Even Snell of Lake and Chris Shuler of Harperville, honorable mention recipients. Bruce Guraedy and Jill Hammes serve as instructors.

APPEARED IN:

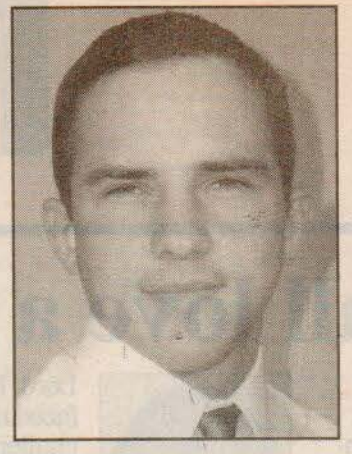
LAKE MESSENGER	✓	CARTHAGINIAN	
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES	✓	NESHOBA DEMOCRAT	
UNION APPEAL		NEWTON RECORD	✓
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL	✓	MERIDIAN STAR	
SPIRIT OF MORTON		CLARION-LEDGER	
IMPACT			

WEEK OF 6/27/05

Three from ECCC BSU participate in summer missionaries



Joseph Carlton



John Walton

Jessica Sheehan

Special to The Record

Jessica Sheehan, John Walton and Joseph Carlton are three of 164 college students selected statewide to serve as summer missionaries in various parts of America and around the world.

With funds provided by the Baptist Student Union, most students serve an eight to 10 week term alongside career missionaries.

Fifty of the students selected will serve in nine foreign countries while 114 will work in 25 states and Canada.

Sheehan, a student at East Central Community College, will be serving as a missionary in Wyoming and is the daughter of Ricky and Jackie Sheehan of Little Rock.

Walton, also an ECCC student, is the son of Ronnie and Jeanne Walton of Decatur and will serve in Texas.

Mississippi College Student Charlton will serve in Florida and is the son of Jack and Mary Charlton of Little Rock.

The Baptist Student Union is sponsored by the Collegiate Ministry Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Organization / clubs

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 6/27/05

ECCC PHOTO

DILLEY RECEIVES DOBBS AWARD

Forest High School graduate Jess Dilley (center) is the 2005 recipient of The Tony Dobbs Memorial Scholarship presented at East Central Community College. Endowed in the spring of 2005 from funds raised by Forest Country Club during its annual Crawfish Tournament, the scholarship honors the memory of Tony Dobbs, a 1980 FHS graduate and ECCC alumnus. Dilley received the award from Vance Cox (left), president of Forest Country Club, and Stacey Hollingsworth, ECCC staff. The annual award is presented to a resident of Scott County who is a multi-year letter-winner in golf. Recipients are selected by the College's Scholarship Committee.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER		CARTHAGINIAN	
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES	✓	NESHOBA DEMOCRAT	
UNION APPEAL		NEWTON RECORD	
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL		MERIDIAN STAR	
SPIRIT OF MORTON	✓	CLARION-LEDGER	
IMPACT			

WEEK OF 6/27/05

PHOTO SUBMITTED

GERONTOLOGY SCHOLARSHIPS

Doris Henson, left, and Shelia Jackson, center, recently received the Heart and Hand Gerontology Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarships were established in 1999 by Heart and Hand, a nonprofit organization that promotes programs and services for senior citizens. Henson received the Elberta C. Phillips Gerontology Scholarship and Jackson received the Jane R. Holbrook Gerontology Scholarship. Pictured with the recipients is Christi Lee, ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director. Not pictured is Doreen Stroud who received the Heart and Hand Endowed Scholarship. The awards were presented during the College's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 6/27/05

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

RECEIVES LA-Z-BOY SCHOLARSHIP: Russ Godwin (center), a 2005 graduate of Newton County Academy, is the recipient of a La-Z-Boy South Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Representing La-Z-Boy are Julie Rowzee (left) and Tom Keith. The award was presented during the College's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, May 26, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 6/27/05

ECCC SCHOLARSHIP

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

RECEIVES LAND SCHOLARSHIP: Heather Blackwell (center), a 2005 graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the James E. Land Memorial Scholarship to attend East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 2003 by Dr. Harold Aycock (right) in memory of James E. Land, a longtime professional educator, photographer and supporter of East Central. Representing the family is Land's sister, Martha Kate Phillips. The award was presented during the College's annual Bell South Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, May 28, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Orientation / enrollment

WEEK OF 6/27/05

Planning ECCC Class Schedule

jkillens@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

DECATUR--Lake High School graduate Querida Brookings (right) was among area students who attended orientation activities held June 18 at East Central Community College in Decatur. During orientation, students receive their approved class schedules, reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms and have photos made for identification cards. Brookings is shown planning her fall schedule with assistance from computer technology instructor Brenda Johnson. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Thursday, July 7; Wednesday, July 20; and Friday, August 12. Fall classes begin Monday, August 22. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 375. The email address is

APPEARE

LAKE ME _____

SCOTT C _____

UNION A _____

WINSTO _____

SPIRIT C _____

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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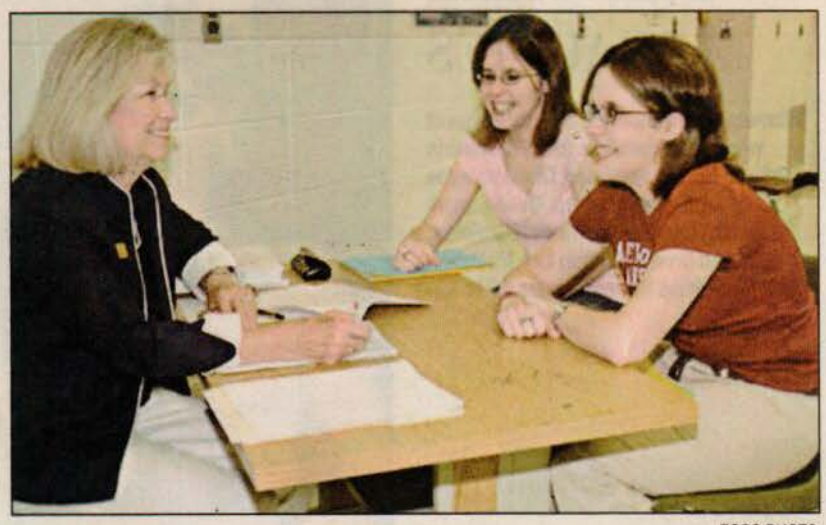
WEEK OF 6/27/05



ECCC PHOTO

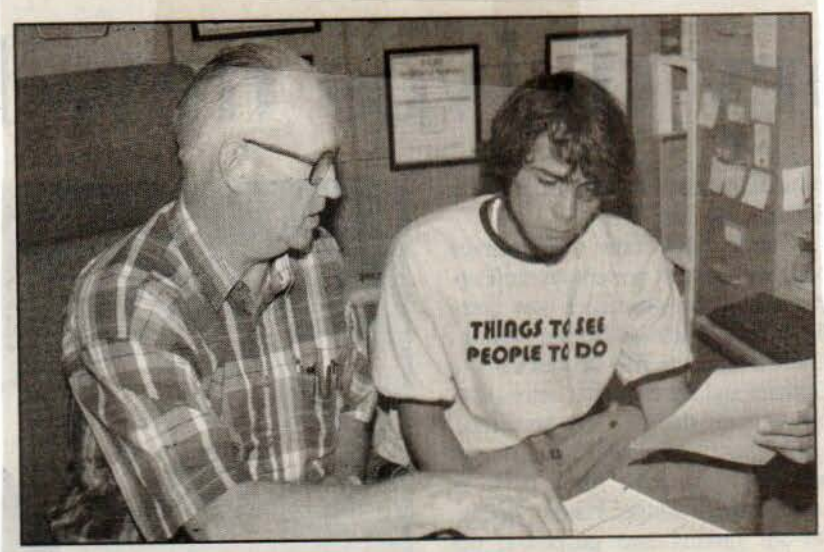
WARE TWINS ATTEND ECCC ORIENTATION

Twins Laura Ware (second from left) and Lee Ware of Forest were among the approximately 300 students who attended Honors Orientation held June 3 at East Central Community College in Decatur. During orientation, students receive their approved class schedules for the fall semester, reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms and have photos made for identification cards. The Scott Central graduates are shown planning their fall semester class schedules with assistance from English instructor Linda Pierce.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER		CARTHAGINIAN	
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES	✓	NESHOBA DEMOCRAT	
UNION APPEAL		NEWTON RECORD	
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL		MERIDIAN STAR	
SPIRIT OF MORTON	✓	CLARION-LEDGER	
IMPACT			

WEEK OF 6/27/05



Madison attends ECCC orientation

Neshoba Central High School graduate James Madison was among area students who attended orientation activities held June 18 at East Central Community College in Decatur. During orientation, students receive their approved class schedules for the fall semester, reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms and have photos made for identification cards. Madison is shown planning his fall semester schedule with assistance from Conrad Germany who teaches collision repair technology. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Thursday, July 7; Wednesday, July 20; and Friday, Aug. 12. Fall classes begin Monday, Aug. 22. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 375. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 6/27/05

18A, The Neshoba Democrat, Philadelphia, Miss., June 29, 2005

Registering for ECCC classes

Neshoba Central High School graduate Valerie Lillis (right) was among area students who attended orientation activities held June 18 at East Central Community College in Decatur. During orientation, students receive their approved class schedules for the fall semester, reserve or check on the status of their dormitory rooms and have photos made for identification cards. Lillis is shown planning her fall semester schedule with assistance from Spanish instructor Linda Lane. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Thursday, July 7; Wednesday, July 20; and Friday, Aug. 12. Fall classes begin Monday, Aug. 22. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 375. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 08-15-05

ECCC Wall o' Sound Drum Line

The East Central Community College drum line performs during halftime of last year's game with Jones Junior College. The Wall o' Sound will entertain during ECCC's games again this fall.

Photo by Jack Tannehill

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL X

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

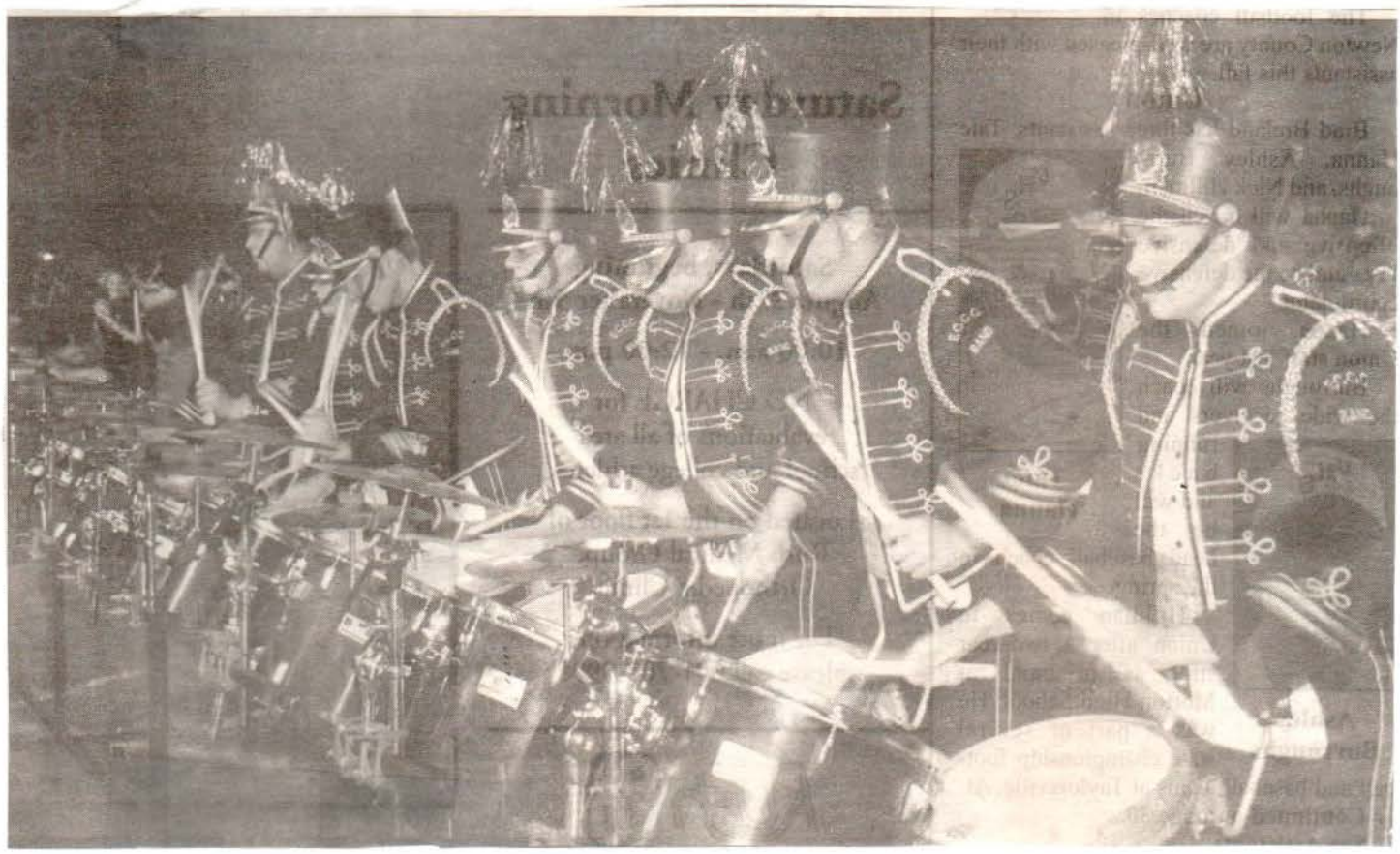
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

08-15-05



WEEK OF 08-15-06

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER X

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

UNION APPEAL X

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON X

IMPACT

CARTHAGINIAN

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT X

NEWTON RECORD X

MERIDIAN STAR X

CLARION-LEDGER

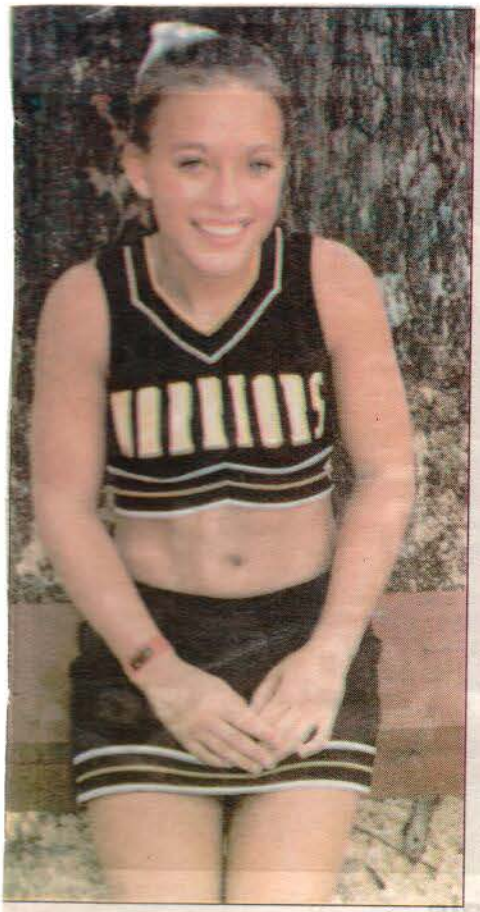
08-15-05

ECCC Cheerleaders Receive Awards

The 2005-06 East Central Community College cheerleading squad received three superior ribbons and one excellent ribbon during the Universal Cheerleaders Association Cheer Camp held in July at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. In addition, EC was named a superior squad and was selected Most Improved. Warrior mascot Carl Spence was also named all-superior during mascot camp held the same week. Shown with their awards are (front row, from left) Stephen C. Parker of Nanih Waiya, Brittany Barfield of Carthage, Loren Kennedy of Union, Susanna Pace of Neshoba Central, Kristin Bufkin of Newton County, and Josh Pigg of Edinburg; (second row) Maggie McDill of Newton County, Megan Jones of Enterprise, cheer coach Coco Boone of Decatur, Marlo Hollingsworth of Newton County Academy, and Kristina Moore of Enterprise; and (back row) Tavarius Walker and Chris Gatewood, both of Morton; Zach Kilpatrick of Neshoba Central, Kyle Jones of Nanih Waiya, and Christopher Boose of Newton County.

(ECCC photo)

WEEK OF 08-15-05



Loren Kennedy

ECCC Centralettes and Cheerleaders from Union

Members of the Centralettes dance line at East Central Community College from Union are (from left) Morgan Milling, Ashley Rigdon, Madison Brantley, Kristen Thompson, Clancy Cleveland, and Lydia Adkins.

Photos by Marty Stamper

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL X

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

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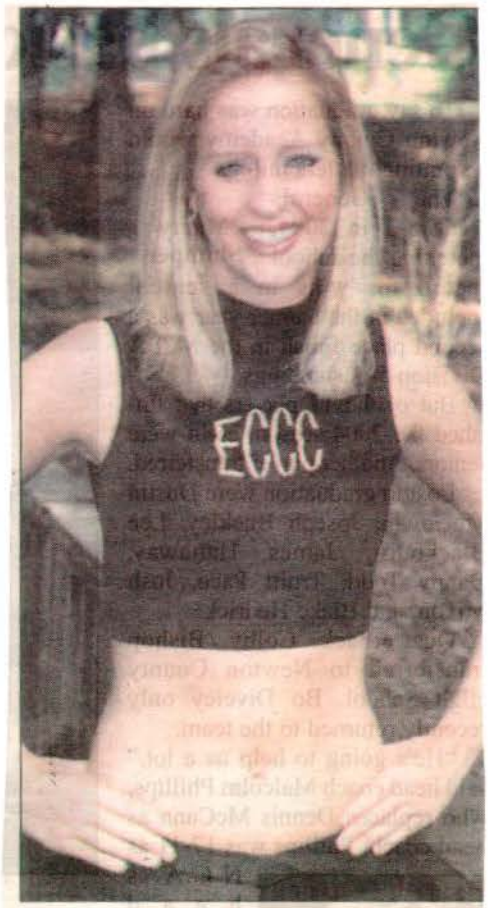
08-15-05

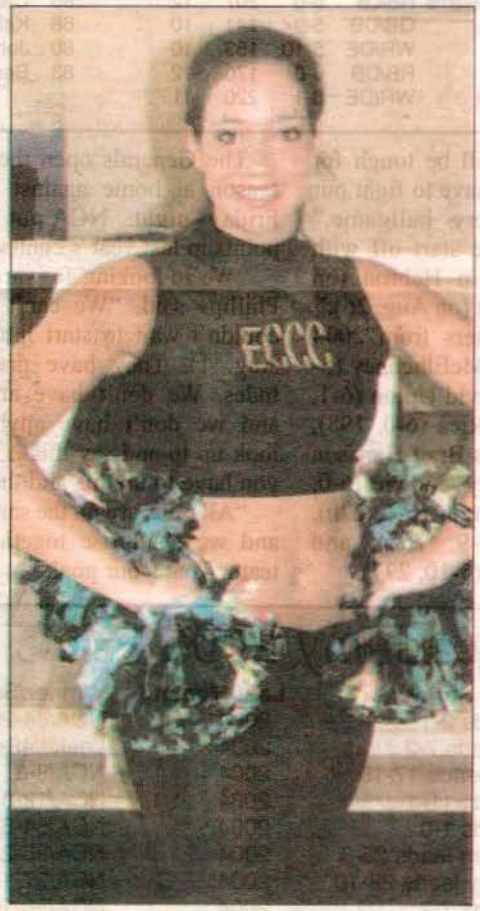


Clancy Cleveland

08-15-05

Go EC

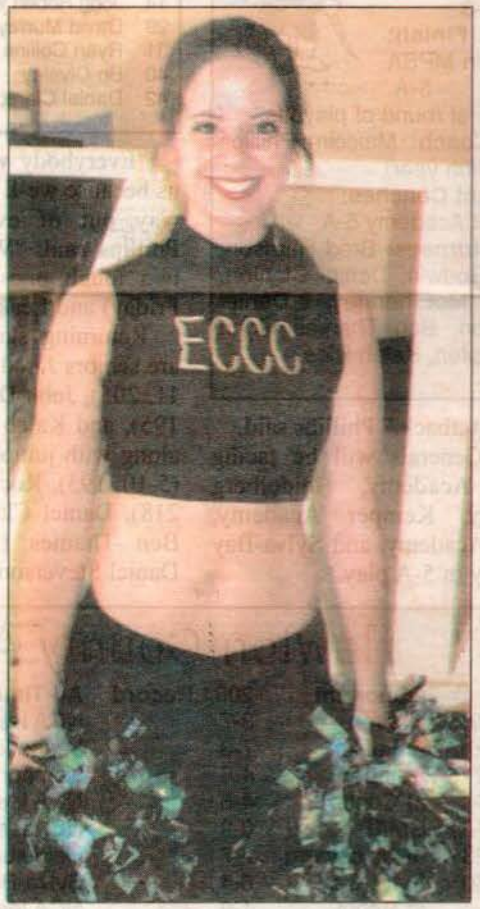
Morgan Milling



Lydia Adkins

08-15-05

WARRIORS!!!!!



Kristen Thompson

Ashley Rigdon

WEEK OF Sep 9

Strong leadership a plus for

Ricardo Robinson of Decatur begins his seventh year as color guard instructor for the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band.

A former drum major at East Central Community College, Robinson teaches at Dance Etc. in Petal and is a freelance dance teacher and choreographer. He serves as color guard instructor for Petal High School and is a consultant for color guards throughout the Southeast.

He is a former member of the Spirit of Atlanta Drum and Bugle Corps and was a member of the 2001 Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps that won first place in world competition.

Robinson is a senior at the University of Southern Mississippi where he is a music education major and is minoring in dance. He is also a former drum major for the USM Pride of Mississippi Marching Band.

He is the son of Cyndi Robinson-Myrick of Decatur.

Danielle Boyd, a sophomore from Carthage, is serving her second year as Drum Major of the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band.

Boyd is a graduate of Carthage High School where she earned All-Superior ratings during her two years as drum major for the Tiger Band.

She has also received honors as a clarinetist, having received the John Phillip Sousa Award her senior year. She was also selected Most Outstanding Player as a freshman.

She is the daughter of Wania Boyd and Douglas Boyd, Jr.

Freshman Lauren Estes begins her first year as an assistant drum major for the Wall O' Sound.

She is a graduate of Forest High School, where she served as Color Guard Captain her senior year and received the Captain's Award.

Ricardo Robinson

Lauren Estes

Danielle Boyd

Kimberly Bassett

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT X

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Sept. 19-05

ECCC Band

She is the daughter of Randy Estes and Teresa Clark.

Freshman Kimberly Bassett is serving her first year as assistant drum major for the ECCC Wall O' Sound.

Bassett is a graduate of Scott Central High School, where she earned All-Superior ratings as drum major of the Rebel Marching Band. She was also the recipient of the John Phillip Sousa Award.

She is the daughter of Carl and Terrie Bassett.

WEEK OF Sept. 26, 05

ECCC boasts

By Maria McLeod
special to The Star

DECATUR — Topping out at 182 members, the 2005 edition of the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band is the largest band in East Central Community College history. The number of musicians has increased greatly since director Thomas W. Carson took over the program in 1982.

"I think 17 kids reported to band camp my first year," Carson said.

So what is the secret to recruiting such a large number?

"There is no secret," Carson said. "My philosophy is to have a band program that the students want to be in and are proud to be in. I always tell them that I have put my heart into this program because I love it so much, and I want them to feel the same dedication and pride."

Carson said that current band members are his best recruiters.

"They go out and tell their friends about the band," he said. "Also, my great working relationship with area band directors plays a large part in recruiting."

Carson said he has also built a program that has many areas of interest for students to become involved in, which includes marching and concert bands, a jazz band, the Collegians rock 'n' roll band, a drumline and percussion ensemble. The band department also features an outstanding color guard and the Centralettes, the dance-line for the Wall O' Sound.

music," Carson said. "One big change is we are doing a pre-opener at halftime just to announce to the world 'here we are!' There will also be some top-secret surprises. Our shows are always fun."

Carson's team

Carson is not alone when it comes to running the Wall O' Sound and he had great things to say about his co-workers.

"I am very fortunate to have such great staff members to work with," he said. "All four of us absolutely love what we do and the kids know it. None of us are afraid to get right out there with them,whether it is me playing guitar, Jared (Brownlee, assistant director) playing drums, Coco (Boone, Centralette coordinator/choreographer) dancing with the girls, or Ricardo (Robinson, color guard coordinator/choreographer) tossing the flags.

"There is certainly no 'secret' why our drum line is the best in the state: Jared Brownlee. What drummer would not want to be in this caliber drum line? Ricardo has been a blessing and will makes zillions over the years teaching color guard squads all over this nation.

"We do have a new drill sergeant on our staff in Coco Boone! I say that with a very appreciative smile, as our new Centralette coordinator is completely into what she does with 18 young ladies," Carson said.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES X
UNION APPEAL _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓
NEWTON RECORD _____
MERIDIAN STAR X
CLARION-LEDGER _____

Sept. 26, 05

Coping with growth

With the increase in students comes the need for more space and more help.

"We have outgrown the band hall and we have outgrown having two directors, and I am going nuts," Carson said. "But, all musicians are crazy, so that falls in line with that thought!"

He added, "My dream was to one day have 100 in the band here, so I long since passed that goal. I am on edge every year as about half the band graduates and I have to recruit around 75-80 just to maintain the size we have had the past few years. So an increase of over 30 this year was outstanding! But, whether I have 50 or 500, I just do my job the best I can. Every single band member is special to me."

Carson said such a large number hasn't changed much about the way he runs daily practices.

"It runs about the same; it just takes longer to get them to the field and take care of band business. There is a lot more paperwork for me to deal with."

So are there any surprises for this season of marching music?

"As usual, we are doing a variety of

"Not only do they learn very precise dances, she is also dedicated to their overall fitness and health. That is very important for the type of activity they have to do and the look a college dance line needs to have. You might see the Centralettes running across campus on any given day! Coco is a joy to work with!"

Fans will also notice three drum majors in this year's marching band.

"As the band has grown, the need for more 'conductors' has been forthcoming," Carson said. "I had two outstanding young ladies coming to ECCC, so I thought this would be a great year to have three. It is working out beautifully!"

The future

Next year, the Wall O' Sound will sport new uniforms, but will have to make do with what they have for the '05 season.

"We ordered new uniforms, but they will not be here in time for this season," Carson said.

"We ran out of our present uniforms, so we are having the drum line and tubas wear temporary band shirts and band pants to get us through.

Sept. 26, 05

biggest band ever

Sept 26, 05

When the new uniforms come in, it will be a totally different and exciting look for the Wall O' Sound next fall"

Carson said his biggest need for the band department is without a doubt a new band hall!

"A new band hall is our most pressing need. We have the best equipment available, a great practice field, but our band hall space is depleted! We are storing equipment in all the practice rooms and hallways, and even in my garage at home!

"My dream is to have the best band building in the state, that others will want to model after, and a building that will completely serve the needs of our entire band program for years and years to come."

In addition to more space, there are a few other items the band needs.

We always have immediate needs for instruments such as tubas, and other large brass instruments. Also, a large U-Haul type truck is essential; at the present time, we must rent one for all our trips. Those areas would be a great contribution from any alumni, family and friends of the band," Carson said.

Carson has served as director of bands at the college for 23 years. His reason: "I love working with young musicians and providing them with something worthwhile."

Maria McLeod is assistant to the vice president for public information at East Central Community College.

WARRIOR WALL O' SOUND

Carson

Brownlee

Boone

Robinson

Boyd

Bassett

Estes

► **Directors:** Head director, Tom Carson; assistant, Jared Brownlee; Coco Boone, Centralette coordinator; Ricardo Robinson, Color Guard instructor

► **Band officers:** Danielle Boyd, head drum major; Kimberly Bassett and Lauren Estes, assistant drum majors

► **First performance:** The Wall O' Sound debuted its 2005 halftime show on Sept. 24, when the Warriors took on Pearl River Community College at Newton County High School's field. This year, the full band will perform at all home games; the pep band will go to away games.

WEEK OF _____

SUBMITTED PHOTO

CAMP AWARDS

The East Central Community College cheerleading squad received three superior ribbons and one excellent ribbon during the Universal Cheerleaders Association Cheer Camp held in July at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. In addition, ECCC was named a superior squad and was selected Most Improved. Warrior mascot Carl Spence was also named all-superior during mascot camp held the same week. Pictured with their awards are, front row from left, Stephen C. Parker, Brittany Barfield, Loren Kennedy, Susanna Pace, Kristin Bufkin and Josh Pigg. In the second row are Maggie McDill, Megan Jones, cheer coach Coco Boone, Marlo Hollingsworth and Kristina Moore. In the back row are Tavarius Walker, Chris Gatewood, Zach Kilpatrick, Kyle Jones and Christopher Boose. Not pictured is Neal Hall.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Sept. 26, 05

East Central Community College Cheerleaders

Squad's name: East Central Community College Cheerleaders

Coach or adviser: Coco Boone

History: The ECCC Cheerleaders are usually a co-ed squad made up of girls and guys from all over the school's five-county district and maybe one or two students from out of district.

Try-outs: Spring semester, April. Candidates are asked to perform a list of requirements including co-ed partner stunts, jumps, tumbling, a cheer and chant, and a dance for the girls. The cheerleaders are judged and scored on each of these requirements by a panel of qualified judges.

Requirements: All cheerleader must be enrolled and pass a minimum of 12 hours each semester and have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0. These cheerleader athletes lose their full-tuition scholarships if the requirements are not met.

Practices: The squad practices four to five days a week. In addition to regular practices, they also take gymnastics at Miller's Gym in Newton once a week and lift weights and do fitness and conditioning workouts in the Warrior weight room twice a week.

Choreography: Coco Boone, the cheer coach, choreographs most all routines with input from the squad.

New this year: We are a fairly young squad with only five returning members out of 16 total this year. We have made vast improvements over the last few months. We hope to show a lot of spirit and enthusiasm at all performances and games this year. In addition, we have practiced various stunts and pyramids that we hope the crowds will enjoy. Overall, we would like to be a good, clean collegiate-looking squad that shows a lot of school spirit.

Performances: We have pep rallies and football games once a week during football season. Then, we perform at all Home girls and guys basketball games during basketball season. In addition, we perform at various school and local functions as needed.

Camps: The squad goes to the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, Ala., every July. The collegiate cheer camp is hosted by the Universal Cheerleaders Association.

Awards: We received awards at cheer camp this summer at the University of Alabama. We were selected as a "Superior" Squad and a "Most-Improved" Squad. We also received an Excellent and three Superior ribbons for our cheer and chant evaluations at camp. Our "Warrior" mascot, Carl Spence, also received all Superior ratings at camp this summer.

Captains: Kristin Bufkin, Kyle Jones

Fund-raisers: The squad sponsors various fund-raiser. The proceeds are used to purchase new uniforms, poms, megaphones, practice clothes, supplies and various materials needed

Sept. 26, 05

SUBMITTED PHOTO

ECCC CENTRALETTES

Members of the Centralettes, the danceline for the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band, are in the first row, from left, Jennifer Key, Misty Mayes, Jana Sansing, Aly Burton and Ashley Rigdon. In the second row are Madison Brantley, Sherrell Brown, Amanda Dowell, Clancey Cleveland, Kia Latiker and Laura Beth Wray. In the third row are Kristen Thompson, Paige Randolph, Kelsi Ables, Whitney Whiteside, Lauren McDonald, Casey Cooper and Mykel Hoy. In the fourth row are Krisha Dickens, Cassie Neal, Gretchen Stubbs, Caylee Sullivan, Bethany Sharp and Morgan Milling. In the back row are Lydia Adkins, Sarah Peeples, Rachel McElhenney, Elizabeth Jackson, Ashley Brooks, Kathryn Barney and Sally Jones. Coco Boone is choreographer/coordinator.

WEEK OF _____

ECCC Phi Beta Lambda officers

These students have been selected to lead the Phi Beta Lambda chapter at East Central Community College in Decatur. Front row, from left, are Andy Johnson of Philadelphia, parliamentarian; and Rebecca Brand, vice president, and Ernest Spivey, treasurer, both of Decatur. Back row, from left, are Julia Tucker of Decatur, historian; Jamaica Hernandez of Pearl River, secretary; Jeffery Davis of Louisville, president; and Michael Pettey of Philadelphia, reporter. Business technology instructor Ruth Gregory of Little Rock serves as lead adviser. Phi Beta Lambda is an organization for business and computer students. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 10/10/05

ECCC announces 2005-06 Student Body Leaders

The Student Body Association at East Central Community College in Decatur is led in 2005-06 by (from left) Keely Morgan, president, of Walnut Grove; Joy Cavenaugh, vice president, of Chunky; Jaimee Jones, secretary, of Louisville; and Clancy Cleveland, treasurer, of Union.

—ECCC PHOTO

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 3/10/05

Recovery time

East Central Community College sophomore cheerleader Magna Jones (center) of Enterprise made a surprise visit to the ECCC-Co-Lin football game last Saturday after spending several weeks in the Methodist Rehabilitation Center in Jackson. Jones suffered a fall at cheerleader practice that resulted in a badly bruised spinal cord injury, which caused temporary paralysis in her legs and feet. Pictured with Jones are ECCC cheerleaders (front row, from left) Tavarius Walker, Morton, Neal Hall, Neshoba Central, Brittany Barfield, Carthage, Kyle Jones, Nanih Waiya, and Christopher Boose, Newton County; (second row, from left) Kristina Moore, Enterprise, Susanna Price, Neshoba Central, Kristin Bufkin, Newton County, Jones, Marla Hollingsworth, Newton County Academy, Maggie McDill, Newton County, and Loren Kennedy, Union; and (back row, from left) Josh Pigg, Edinburg, Zach Kilpatrick, Neshoba Central, Dustin Evans, Collins, and Stephen Parker, Nanih Waiya.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF _____

ECCC sophomore officers

Serving as sophomore class officers for 2005-06 at East Central Community College in Decatur are, from left, Jason Long, president, of Carthage; Kevin Gregory, vice president, of Louisville; Lindsey Walker, secretary, of Little Rock; and Beth Crotwell, treasurer, of Union.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 10/7/05

ECCC FRESHMAN OFFICERS: These students serve as Freshman Class officers for 2005-06 at East Central Community College in Decatur. >From left are Maggie McDill, president, of Decatur; Brittany Harper, vice president, of Meridian; Kim Cleveland, secretary, and Loren Kennedy, treasurer, both of Union.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 10/24/05

These East Central Community College students from Newton County were recently inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges. From left are Misty Mayon of Newton, Lori McMullan of Decatur, Denise Poole of Newton and Ashley Rigdon of Union, who were tapped for membership in the prestigious organization during a special ceremony held on the Decatur campus. Students are required to have a 3.5 grade point average to be considered for membership. (ECC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF _____

Forest Students Join ECCC Honor Society

These East Central Community College students from Scott County were recently inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges. From left are Phatosha Derrick and Heather Whitlock, both of Forest, who were tapped for membership in the prestigious organization during a special ceremony held on the Decatur campus. Students are required to have a 3.5 grade point average to be considered for membership. Faculty members Sylvia Wright of Louisville and Debbie Hammons of Decatur serve as advisers.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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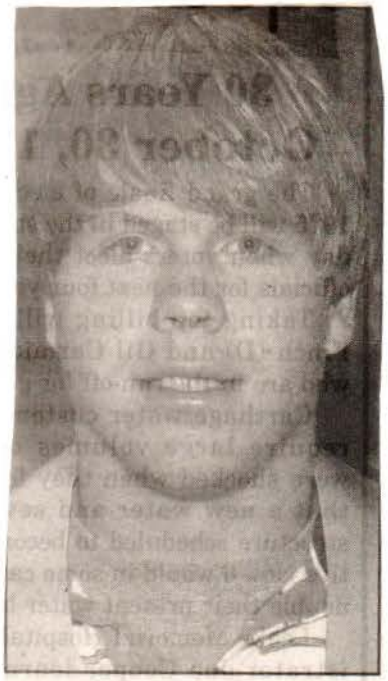
WEEK OF _____



Honor society

East Central Community College sophomore Caleb Shepard, of Carthage, was inducted into the Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges during recent ceremonies on the Decatur campus. Students are required to have a 3.5 grade point average to be considered for membership.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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WEEK OF _____

Fellowship of Christian Athletes officers

Student-athletes at East Central Community College in Decatur serving as 2005-06 officers for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, include, from left Jaimee Jones, president, of Louisville; Amanda Schmidt, vice president, of Carthage; Joy Cavenaugh, secretary, of Chunky; and Lauren Kennedy, treasurer, of Union.

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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Louisville Students Join ECCC Honor Society

These East Central Community College students from Winston County were recently inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges. From left are Amy Hathorn, Casey Hill and Teresa Jenkins, all of Louisville, who were tapped for membership in the prestigious organization during a special ceremony held on the Decatur campus. Students are required to have a 3.5 grade point average to be considered for membership. Faculty members Sylvia Wright of Louisville and Debbie Hammons of Decatur serve as advisers. Not pictured is Stephanie Terry of Louisville who was also inducted into the honor society. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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WEEK OF 17/05

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Representatives of East Central Community College were recently on campus at Newton High School talking to seniors. The seniors were given information about academic as well as vocational/technical programs that are offered at ECCC. Pictured FRONT: NHS senior-Tawayatha Evans and ECCC student recruiter Robin Germany BACK: ECCC student recruiter-Megan Slay, ECCC vocational counselor-Christie Gregory, NHS senior-Katera Evans, ECCC Career Center Director/Recruiter-Pantonica Evans, NHS senior-Shekia Davis and Chotsani Henderson, ECCC student recruiter-Meagan Mills.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF _____

ECCC BEAUTIES & BEAUS

Misty Mayes (sixth from left) of Newto and Colby Amis (fifth from left) of Decatur were recently selected Most Beautiful and Most Handsome, respec tively, during the annual East Central Community College pageant held rece ly on the Decatur campus. Also pictur are beauties and beaus (from left) Jordan Gibbs of Morton, Haley Harris Decatur, Christopher Boose of Morton Megan Jones of Rose Hill, Amis, Maye Regan Melton of Philadelphia, Hastin Westbrook of Little Rock, Casey Coop of Forest and Marcus Viverette of Stratton.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF

Top Ten ECCC Beauties ~These young ladies were named top ten finalists in the annual East Central Community College beauty pageant held recently on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (from left) Julia Tucker and Haley Harris, both of Decatur; Megan Jones of Rose Hill, Kim Faucette of Carthage, Most Beautiful Misty Mayes of Newton, Regan Melton of Philadelphia, Aly Burton of Decatur, Lydia Adkins of Union, and Sherrell Brown and Casey Cooper, both of Forest. (EC Photo)

APPEAL

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CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF _____

MAYES CROWNED MOST BEAUTIFUL at [illegible] East Central Community College sophomore Misty Mayes, third from left, of Newton was crowned Most Beautiful during the College's annual beauty pageant held recently on the Decatur campus. Colby Amis (second from left) of Decatur was named Most Handsome. Photo cured are 2004 Most Beautiful Kristin Butler of Decatur and College president Dr. Phil Bozman.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 11/14/05

ECCC Runners-Up

ECCC Flag Football Runners-Up

"Nashville Semi-Warriors" captured second place in the intramural flag football competition held recently at East Central Community College in Decatur. Team members are (seated from left) Ferony Canaday, Thomastown; Jeremy Jackson, Hickory; Maurice Jenkins, Pachuta; Howard Tucker, Philadelphia; Patrick Bass, Kemper; and Jerry Triplett and Aaron Tate, both of Carthage; (kneeling from left) Todd Hayes, Mize; David Harper, Thomastown; Deontrist Haynes, Louisville; LaDarryl Steele, Lashawn Houston and David Wilson, all of Kemper; and Medford Elland, Louisville; and (standing from left) Terrance Floyd (head coach) and Jeffery Davis (offensive coordinator), both of Louisville; Juwayne Wilder (defensive coordinator), Thomastown; Marcus Wise, Carthage; Maurice Coleman, Louisville; and Stanley Burrage, Philadelphia. Coach Scott Hill serves as director of the College's intramural program. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 11/14/05

Flag Football Champs

ECCC Flag Football Champions. "The Not Dead" won top honors in the intramural flag football championship held recently at East Central Community College in Decatur. Team members include (seated from left) Steven Parker, Neosh Walye; Jason Gooden, Philadelphia; Patrick Peterson, Louisville; and Brian Sanderson, Philadelphia; (kneeling from left) Dusty Warner, Brandon Jennings and Michael Gregory, all of Louisville; and Adam Lyons, Philadelphia; and (standing from left) Brandon Womble, Louisville; Grant McDaniel and Jason Yarbrough, both of Philadelphia; Jon Duncan, Preston; Woody Woodward and Paul McMillin, both of Louisville; and Steven Rogers, Neosh Walye. Not pictured is Brandon King of Edinburg. Coach Scott Hill serves as Director of the College's intramural program.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 11/14/05

ECCC SEA officers

Selected to serve as officers of the Student Education Association at East Central Community College in Decatur for 2005-06 are (from left) Clancy Cleveland, vice president, and Allison McDaniel, secretary, both of Union; and Beth Richardson, president, of Preston. ECCC faculty member Lucille Wood serves as advisor. (EC Photo)

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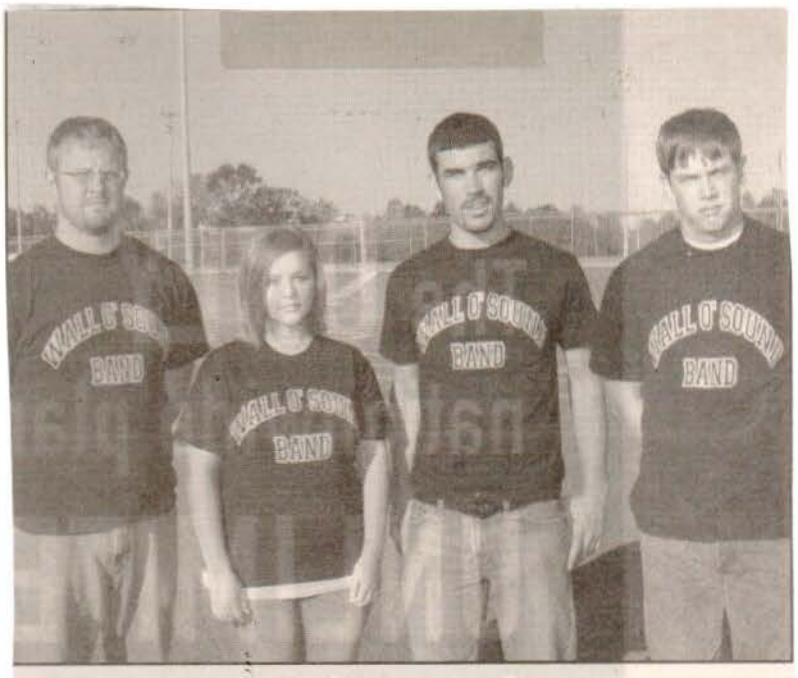
WEEK OF 11/21/05



ECCC 'Wall O' Sound' managers

Serving as managers for the 2005-06 Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band at East Central Community College in Decatur are (from left) Tyler Hagan, Little Rock; Kailey Johnson and Cassidy Crenshaw, both of Philadelphia; and Hastings Westbrook, Little Rock. Tom Carson serves as ECCC Director of Bands. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF _____

Newton County parts to the 'Wall O' Sound'

Newton County Members of the ECCC 'Wall O' Sound' .... These students from the Newton County area are members of the 2005-06 Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (front row, from left) Morgan Milling and Ashley Rigdon, both of Union; Misty Mayes, Newton; Krisha Dickens, Hickory; Aly Burton, Decatur; Clancy Cleveland and Lydia Adkins, both of Union; Kelsi Ables and Lauren McDonald, both of Decatur; Kristen Thompson, Union; and Paige Randolph, Newton; (second row, from left) Ashley Brooks, Newton; Madison Brantley, Heather Blackwell and Jessica Cager, all of Union; Keisha Temple and Shay Moncrief, both of Newton; Courtney Averett, Conehatta; Rachel McElhenney, Decatur; and Sally Jones, Chunky; (third row, from left) Jeremy Jackson, Hickory; Cheaquandrea Evans, Newton; Erin Copeland and Latasha Warren, both of Union; Denise Moore, Hickory; Nicole Pittman and Shauntavien Currie, both of Newton; Kim Cleveland, Union; Ashley May, Conehatta; and Traci Crabtree and Brittany Alexander, both of Little Rock; and (back row, from left) Jeremie Jordan, Newton; Kamarie Spivey, Union; Otavian Patrick, Newton; Luke Howell, Decatur; Drew Leach, Conehatta; Jonathan Walker, Hickory; and Chris Smith, Union. Tom Carson serves as ECCC Director of Bands. *(EC Photo)*

APPEARED IN:

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Local Students chosen as 2005-06 ECCC 'Wall O' Sound' Marching Band Drum Majors

Serving as Drum Majors for the 2005-06 Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band at East Central Community College in Decatur are (from left) freshman Lauren Estes of Forest, sophomore Danielle Boyd of Carthage (head drum major) and freshman Kimberly Bassett of Scott Central. Tom Carson serves as ECCC Director of Bands.

–ECCC PHOTO

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WEEK OF 11/21/05

Neshoba County members of the ECCC 'Wall O' Sound'

These students from the Neshoba County area are members of the 2005-06 Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (front row, from left) Skyler Steele, Deidra Yarbrough, Jana Sansing, Charleigh Alford, Rayteshia Payne, Hannah Luke, Jennifer Key and Shondae Sharp, all of Philadelphia; (second row, from left) Dacie Brantley, Chris White, John Lofton, Beth Richardson, Brook Winstead, Savannah Barksdale, Cassidy Byars, Corey Logan, Heath Manning, Joey Smith, Grant Morris, Jeannie Triplett and Deidre Tubby, all of Philadelphia; (third row, from left) Monica Chesney, Holly Williamson, Jenny Cumberland, Brian Sanderson, Daniel Thomas, Brett Latimer, Adam Lyon, Candius Hogan and Joshua Swindle, all of Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) Brent Cumberland, Doug Kelly, Gail Henderson, Grant McDaniel, William Long, Andrew McDaniel and Matt Jones, all of Philadelphia. Tom Carson serves as ECCC Director of Bands. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 11/21/5

EC 'Wall O' Sound' members

These Leake County students are members of the 2005-2006 Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (front row, from left) Nedrick Patrick and Maeganakia Latiker, both of Carthage; Mykel Hoy, Edinburg; Danielle Boyd, Carthage; Amanda Dowell, Edinburg; and Tiffany Gilmore and Christina McKay, both of Carthage; (second row, from left) Mandi King, Carthage; Courtney Johnson, Walnut Grove; and Rodzland Cook, Keyahda Stokes, Perry Harris, Chris Kimbrough and Hyman Stovall, all of Carthage; and (back row, from left) Nicholas Comfort, Ben Ingram, Marcus Wise, Kevin Brown and Pamela Luckett, all of Carthage. Tom Carson serves as ECCC Director of Bands.

APPEARED IN:

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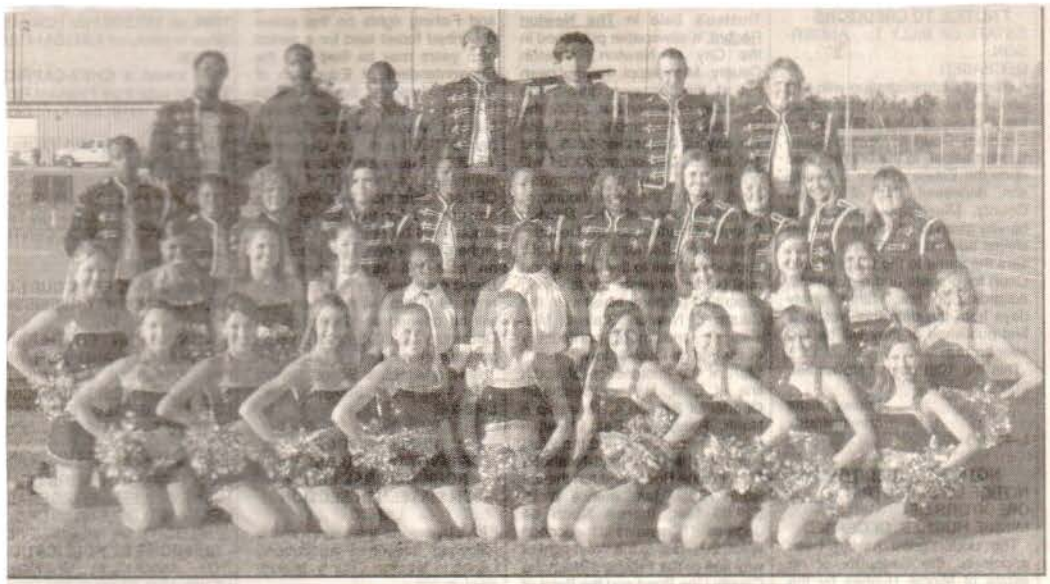
WEEK OF 11/28/05



NEWTON COUNTY MEMBERS OF THE ECCC 'WALL O' SOUND': These students from the Newton County area are members of the 2005-06 Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band at East Central Community College in Decatur. Front row, from left: Morgan Milling and Ashley Rigdon, both of Union; Misty Mayes, Newton; Krisha Dickens, Hickory; Aly Burton, Decatur; Clancy Cleveland and Lydia Adkins, both of Union; Kelsi Ables and Lauren McDonald, both of Decatur; Kristen Thompson, Union; and Paige Randolph, Newton; Second row, from left: Ashley Brooks, Newton; Madison Brantley, Heather Blackwell and Jessica Cager, all of Union; Keisha Temple and Shay Moncrief, both of Newton; Courtney Averett, Conehatta; Rachel McElhenney, Decatur; and Sally Jones, Chunky; Third row, from left: Jeremy Jackson, Hickory; Cheaquandrea Evans, Newton; Erin Copeland and Latasha Warren, both of Union; Denise Moore, Hickory; Nicole Pittman and Shauntavien Currie, both of Newton; Kim Cleveland, Union; Ashley May, Conehatta; and Traci Crabtree and Brittany Alexander, both of Little Rock; and (Back row, from left: Jeremie Jordan, Newton; Kamarie Spivey, Union; Otavian Patrick, Newton; Luke Howell, Decatur; Drew Leach, Conehatta; Jonathan Walker, Hickory; and Chris Smith, Union. Tom Carson serves as ECCC Director of Bands.

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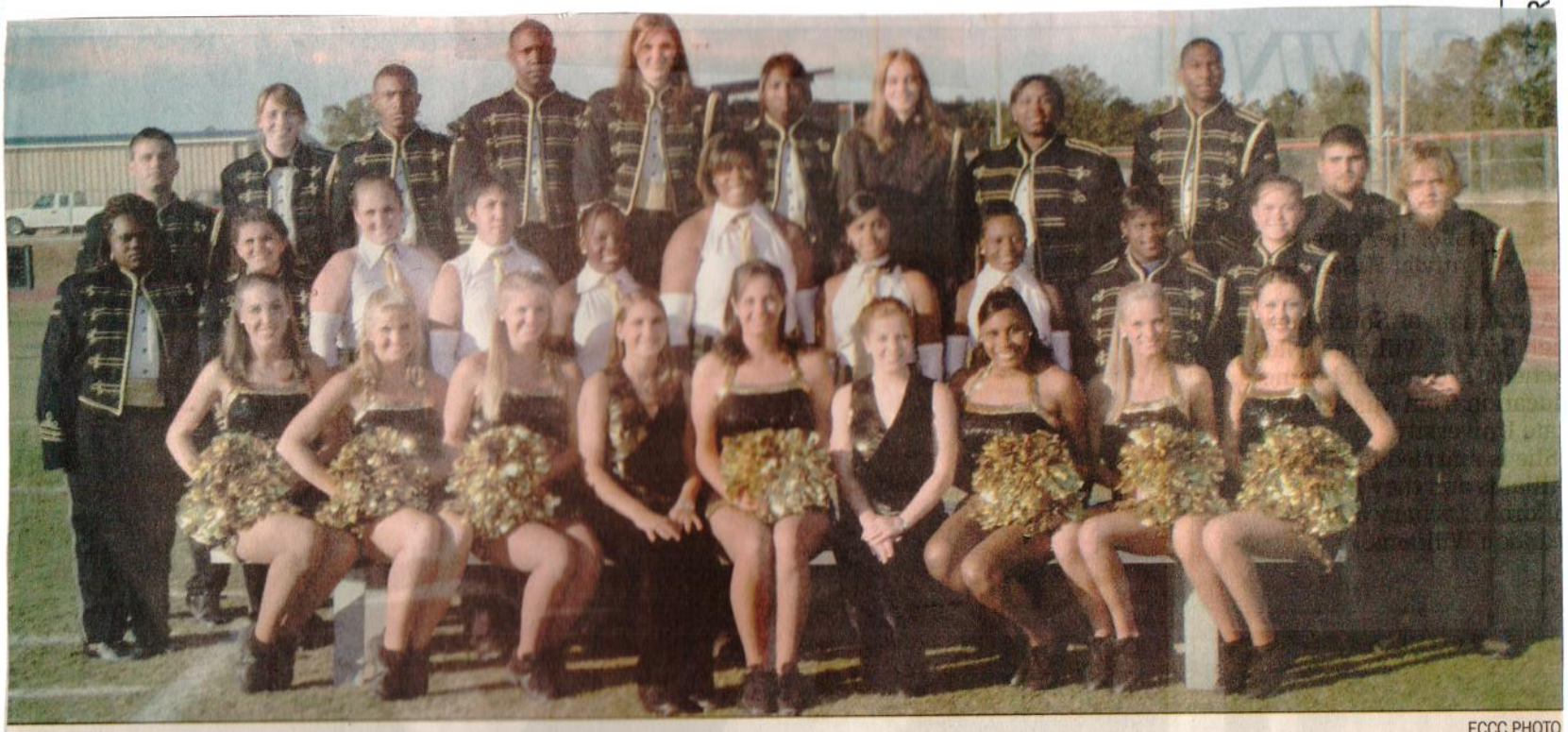
WEEK OF 12/12/05



ECCC PHOTO

MEMBERS OF THE ECCC 'WALL O' SOUND'

These Scott County students are members of the 2005-06 Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (front row, from left) Kathryn Barney, Sebastopol; Casey Cooper, Forest; Cassie Neal, Morton; Kimberly Bassett, Forest; Elizabeth Jackson, Lake; Lauren Estes, Forest; Sherrell Brown, Forest; Bethany Sharp, Sebastopol; and Gretchen Stubbs, Forest; (second row, from left) Aelena Patrick and Elizabeth Puckett, both of Forest; Brittany Mixon, Lake; David Almanza, Morton; Stephanie Spivey, Forest; Devon Clay, Lena; Kimberly Wilson, Forest; Essica Grant, Morton; and Brittany Reed, Heather Richardson and Kyle McCormick, all of Forest; and (back row, from left) Danny Harrison, Forest; Kenya Singleton, Morton; Jeffery Mitchell, Jeremy Loper and Mollie Cieglo, all of Forest; Querida Brookings and Jennie Vance, both of Lake; Albertina Laster and Emmeral McLaurin, both of Forest; and Lee Dooley, Lake. Tom Carson serves as ECCC Director of Bands.

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WEEK OF 12/19/05

Key joins ECCC Warrior Corps

Jennifer Key of Philadelphia was recently selected a member of the East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts for various campus events.

Jennifer Key

A graduate of Neshoba Central High School, Key was an honor student and member of the student council.

At East Central, the sophomore pre-nursing major is a member of the ECCC Diamond Girls and Centralettes.

She is the daughter of David and Jenny Key of Philadelphia.

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WEEK OF 12/19/05

Barney joins ECCC Warrior Corps as a recruiter

Kathryn Barney of Sebastopol was recently selected a member of the East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts for various campus events.

Barney

An honor graduate of Sebastopol High School, Barney served as class president, vice president of the National Honor Society and secretary of the Beta Club. She was also named Jolliest Junior and Friendliest during Who's Who elections.

At East Central, the sophomore physical therapy major is a member of Students Against Destructive Decisions, Sigma Sigma Mu Tau and the Centralettes.

She is the daughter of Charles and Sara Brown and Doug Barney.

Slay Joins ECCC Warrior Corps

Megan Slay of Forest was recently selected a member of the East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts for various campus events.

Slay

An honor graduate of East Rankin Academy, Slay was a member of the ACT Academic Team.

At East Central, the sophomore physical therapy major is a member of the East Central Environmental Club, Baptist Student Union, Students Against Destructive Decisions and Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college.

She is the daughter of Mervyn and Celeste Slay of Forest.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 12/24/05

Warnsley Joins ECCC Warrior Corps

Victor Charles Warnsley II of Morton was recently selected a member of the East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts for various campus vents.

An honor graduate of Morton High School, Warnsley served as student body president and was chosen Most Likely to Succeed. He served as president of Students Against Destructive Decisions and secretary for Future Business Leaders of America. He was also selected a class favorite.

At East Central, the freshman business administration major is a member of Students Against Destructive Decisions, Students in Free Enterprise and was a volunteer for Hurricane Relief Efforts.

He is the son of Helen Johnson and Victor C. Warnsley, Sr. of Morton.

Walker Joins ECCC Warrior Corps

Tavarius Walker of Morton was recently selected a member of the East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts for various campus events.

A graduate of Morton High School, Walker was a member of the Beta Club, Student Council and Students Against Destructive Decisions.

At East Central the freshman pre-veterinary major serves as a Warrior cheerleader, is a member of the Baptist Student Union, Students Against Destructive Decisions and Sigma Sigma Mu Tau.

He is the son of Kevin and Tiffiney Walker of Morton.

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WEEK OF 12/24/05

County students join ECCC's Warrior Corps

Chaney

Colby Amis, Maggie McDill, Rachel McElhenney and Kelsi Ables, all of Decatur; Traci Crabtree and Krista Chaney of Little and Askley May of Conehatta were recently named as members of the East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts for various campus events.

Colby Amis of Newton County High School, served as president of Mu Alpha Theta and Vivace' show choir. He also received various football awards including first team All-State, Most Valuable Player, captain award and Best Offensive Back in class 5-3A.

At East Central, the freshman liberal arts major is a member of the Warrior football team and was recently named honorable mention All-State. He is also a member of the golf team and the Collegians rock-n-roll band.

He is the son of Cheryl and George Amis of Decatur.

Maggie McDill a graduate of Newton County High School, was salutatorian, senior class president and homecoming queen. She was a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and was named to the WTOK All-Scholastic Sports Team.

At East Central, the freshman biology major is a member of the Lady Warrior soccer team, cheerleading squad, Students Against Destructive Decisions and serves as freshman class president.

McDill is the daughter of Randy McDill and Ellen Upton of Decatur.

Rachel McElhenney a graduate of Newton County Academy, McElhenney was salutatorian, president of the Honor Society and received various academic awards.

At East Central, the freshman business administration major is a member of the concert choir and the Centralettes.

She is the daughter of Darrell McElhenney and Rebecca McElhenney of Decatur.

Krista Chaney a graduate of Newton County Academy, Chaney received the Citizenship award, DAR award and Sylvia Loper Memorial Award.

At East Central, the freshman elementary education major is a member of the Student Education Association.

Chaney is the daughter of Woody and JoAnn Chaney of Little Rock.

Ashley May a graduate of Newton County High School, May was a member of the Cougar Marching Band, and Health Occupation Students of America. She received various academic awards and was selected a class favorite and freshman homecoming maid.

At East Central the freshman pre-nursing major and is a member of the ECCC Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band and the Baptist Student Union.

She is the daughter of Jeff and Teresa May of Conehatta.

Traci Crabtree a graduate of Newton County High School, Crabtree was a member of the Cougar Marching Band, chorus, Vivace' show choir, the student council and the Beta club. She was also selected for Who's Who Among American High School Students.

At East Central the freshman pre-nursing major and is a member of the ECCC Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band.

She is the daughter of Jack and Marie Crabtree of Little Rock.

Kelsi Ables a graduate of Newton County Academy, Ables was a member of the National Honor Society and secretary of Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She served as senior class secretary and was voted Most School Spirit and Most Talented in Who's Who elections. In addition, she received the 2005 Newton County Spirit of Junior Miss award and was an Academic Athletic Achievement Award recipient.

At East Central, the freshman nursing major is a member of the Centralettes, the danceline for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band, and was selected a freshman Homecoming maid.

She is the daughter of Zolanda Ables and Tom Ables of Decatur.

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12/26/05

Amis McDill McElhenney Ables Crabtree May

WEEK OF March 28

Tony Krausz

JUCO TENNIS

ELLISVILLE — The Jones Junior College tennis teams each improved to 7-2 for the season by beating East Central Commuinty College on Friday. The Lady Bobcats posted a 7-2 decision, and the Bobcats won 9-0.

JCJC's Delane Cassell defeated Courtney Partridge 6-0, 6-0. JCJC's Ashley Henderson defeated Clancey Cleveland, 6-2, 6-1. JCJC's Carrie Clark defeated Valerie Gibbs 6-4, 7-6 (7-3). JCJC's Jenci Bowen defeated Rhonda Stroud 6-1, 6-0. ECCC's Amanda McMillan defeated Keri Smith 6-1, 6-4. ECCC's Shonda Blalock defeated Shelly Simmons 6-4, 3-6 (10-7).

In women's doubles, Cassell/Henderson defeated Cleveland/McMillan 8-3. Clark/Bowen defeated Stroud/Anna Price 8-0. Smith/Simmons defeated Partridge/Jess Davis 8-3.

In men's actoin JCJC's Alex LePoutre defeated Phillip Sabel 6-1, 6-0. JCJC's Kevin Martin defeated Roberto Orellina 6-3, 6-3. JCJC's Chris Purdum defeated Kyle Gordon 6-2, 6-2. JCJC's Adam Axton defeated David Dennis 6-2, 6-1. JCJC's Alan Buffington defeated Zac Richardson 6-0, 6-1. JCJC's Matt Kendrick won No. 6 singles by forfeit.

In men's doubles, LePoutre/Martin defeated Dennis/Sabel 8-2. Purdum and Lee Hubbard defeated Richardson/Orellina 8-0. JCJC won the No. 3 doubles by forfeit.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF April 4

ECCC Warrior Tennis Team

Members of the East Central Community College Warrior tennis team for 2005 include (from left) Phillip Savell of Philadelphia, David Dennis of Collierville, TN; Zac Richardson of Louisville, Kyle Gordon of Morton and Roberto Orellana of Forest. Brad Hodge serves as coach. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF May 9

ECCC Lady Warrior Tennis Team

Members of the 2005 East Central Community College women's tennis team are, seated left, Valerie Gibbs of Newton, and Jess Davis, Ronda Stroud and Anna Price, all of Louisville. Standing are Courtney Partridge of Louisville, Clancy Cleveland of Union, and Shonda Blaylock and Amanda McMillan, both of Newton. Brad Hodge serves as coach. ***(ECCC Photo)***

APPEARED IN:

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

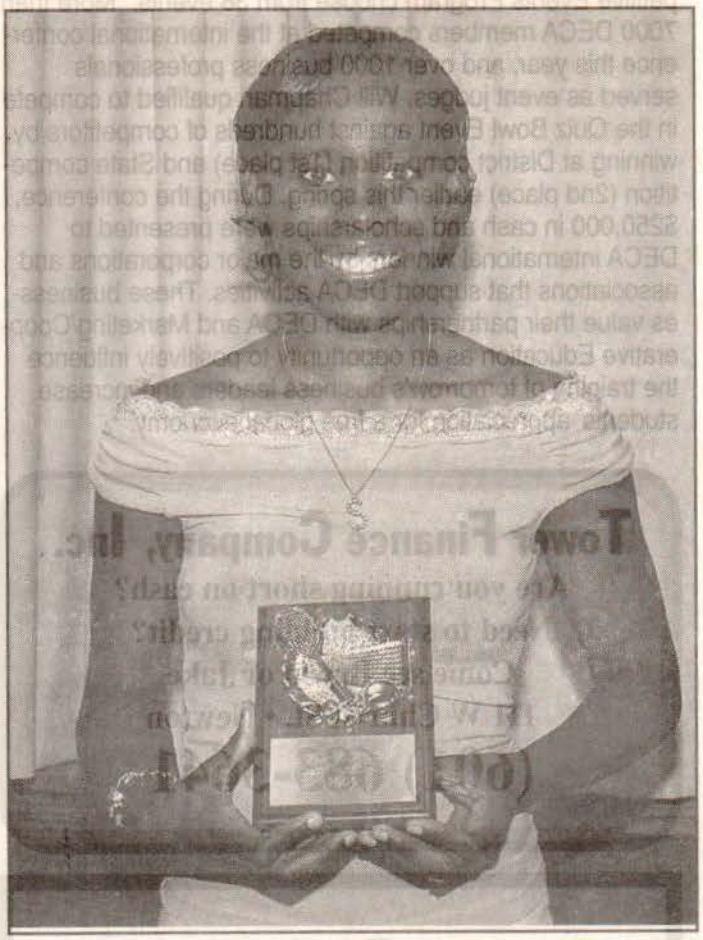
NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 5-30-05

ECCC TENNIS AWARD



ECCC PHOTO

Shonda Blaylock of Newton, who recently completed her freshman season as a member of the East Central Community College women's tennis team, was recognized at the annual Spring Sports Banquet for finishing runner-up in singles at state competition. Brad Hodge served as tennis coach.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL X

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD X

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Jan 10

ECCC Lady Warriors, Warriors fall to Co-Lin

South Division competition began on a disappointing note for the East Central Community College women and men's basketball teams who were swept by visiting Copiah-Lincoln Community College Monday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

The Lady Warriors - the defending division, MACJC and Region 23 champions- were outscored 66-61 and the Warriors were edged 76-73.

Kristin Chaney, a sophomore product of Newton County High School, led the 24th-ranked Lady Warriors with 17 points. Also scoring for EC, which fell to 8-4 and 0-1, were Kim Cox of Lake, 13; Tierra Young of South Leake, 11; India Backstrom of Neshoba Central, eight; Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale, six; Sara Judice of Teurlings Catholic High School in Lafayette, La., four; and LaShaundra Harrison of Union, two.

Gloria Lewis of Natchez had 17 points to lead the Lady Wolves who improved to 8-4 and 1-0.

Co-Lin held a 35-30 advantage at the break.

In men's action, sophomore Andrew Lewis' three-point attempt to tie the contest in the game's final seconds bounced off the rim and the Warrior rally fell short , as Co-Lin came away with the narrow victory.

Lewis, a former standout at Morton High School, had 18 points to lead the Warriors, who slipped to 3-9 and 0-1. Also scoring were Garrick Nichols of Thomastown, 11; Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County, nine; Pierre Barlow of Scott Central, Andre Coleman of Louisville, Tawon Walker of Neshoba Central and Coshune Bingham of Newton, six each; Ryan Rodgers of Tri Cities (Ga.) and Chavlon Ellis of South Leake, four each; Terrance McNichols of Gautier, two; and Justin Harris of Southside (Ga.), one.

Ledell Eackles of Baton Rouge pumped in 25 points to lead Co-Lin, which improved to 7-5 and 1-0.

Co-Lin led 35-25 at halftime.

East Central teams travel to Gulf Coast Thursday night and will again be on the road Monday night for a matchup with Jones County. The Jones County contest as well as the remaining Monday night games can be heard on KICKS 98 (98.3 FM) with veteran broadcaster Melvin Wooten calling the action.

Shannon Lloyd and Tierra Young each pumped in 18 points to lead the East Central Community College women to a 71-56 thumping of Itawamba Community College Thursday night on the Fulton campus.

The Lady Warriors, ranked 24th in the latest NJCAA poll, improved to 8-3 following its first win in 2005 while the Lady Indians slipped to 8-3.

EC scorers in addition to Lloyd, a West Lauderdale product, andYoung, who hails from South Leake, were Kristin Chaney of Newton County, 12; Kotreece Bender of Newton, six; India Backstrom of Neshoba Central and Sara Judice of Teurlings Catholic High School, Lafayette, La., four each; Heather Steele of Nanih Waiya, Aja Loveless of Newton and Erica Hardin of Louisville, two each; and Kim Cox of Lake, one.

The Lady Warriors held a 36-25 advantage at the break.

In men's action, East Central fell 75-70 to the host Indians.

The Warriors, who dropped to 3-8, were led by Morton product Andrew Lewis and Andre Coleman of Louisville who had 13 points apiece.

Other point makers were Garrick Nichols of Thomastown and Jacquas Jones of Forest, 10 each; Ryan Rodgers of Tri Cities High School in Atlanta, six; Terrance McNichols of Gautier and Ryan Hudson of Louisville, five each; Coshune Bingham of Newton, four; and Justin Harris of Southside HS (Atlanta) and Chavlon Ellis of South Leake, two each.

Itawamba, which improved to 9-3, held a slim 41-40 advantage at halftime.

ECCC teams host Copiah-Lincoln Community College squads Monday night to begin South

Division action. Tip-off times are 6 p.m. for the women's contest with men's action scheduled to begin at 8 p.m.

Monday's games as well as the remaining Monday night contests will be broadcast on KICKS 98 (98.3 FM) featuring veteran broadcaster Melvin Wooten.

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

IMPACT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Jan 10

Young paces EC in win over ICC

❑ Warriors fall to 3-8 with 75-70 defeat

Shannon Lloyd and Tierra Young each pumped in 18 points to lead the East Central Community College women to a 71-56 thumping of Itawamba Community College Thursday night on the Fulton campus.

The Lady Warriors, ranked 24th in the latest NJCAA poll, improved to 8-3 following its first win in 2005 while the Lady Indians slipped to 8-3.

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APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER X

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON

IMPACT

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT

NEWTON RECORD

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF Jan 17

Jones pounds ECCC

By Shawn Wansley
special to The Star

ELLISVILLE — Sandra Sumrall could not find too much fault in the performance of her Jones Junior College Lady Bobcats on Monday night against East Central Community College.

"I thought our freshmen did a good job, our post play was good and Brittany Martin came in and hit some big 3-pointers," she said after watching Jones post an 87-70 South Division victory. "I thought rebounding was a key, and we missed just one free throw.

"East Central has a good team, but tonight, we just came to play ball."

In the men's contest, East Central broke away from a 70-point tie with just over eight minutes to play, outscored the Bobcats 20-10, and posted its first division victory with a 90-80 win.

Both teams continue league play Thursday.

Jones visits Gulf Coast, while East Central hosts Hinds.

Jones (women)	**87**
East Central	**70**

PHOTO BY DON HILL / SPECIAL TO THE STAR

IN TRAFFIC

East Central Community College's Kristin Cheney hits a jump shot in ECCC's game against Jones Junior College on Monday night. Cheney led the Lady Warriors with 24 points in their 87-70 loss to the Lady Bobcats in Ellisville.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ____

UNION APPEAL ____

WINSTON COUNTY JOUR ____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ____

IMPACT ____

Jones stormed out to a 14-3 lead, but East Central fought back and took a 25-24 lead with 3:48 left in the first half on a pair of free throws by Kim Cox.

The teams swapped leads four more times in the half before Jones went up 34-32 at intermission.

Martin, a Bay Springs graduate, then took over for Jones. With the Lady Bobcats leading 44-40 with 15:17 left, Martin canned three 3-pointers in less than three minutes. Her final trey gave Jones a 55-45 lead with 12:15 remaining.

East Central got as a close as 68-61 with 4:46 left when Kristin Cheney scored, but that was as close as the Lady Warriors got.

Jones made free throws down the stretch, finishing the game going 26-for-27 from the foul line.

Wayne County product Natalie Jordan led five Jones players in double figures with 22 points. Brittany Baham added 17, Martin had 16, Quitman graduate Shalanda Carter had 12 and Bridgett Lockhart added 10. Carter posted a double-double, pulling down 10 rebounds.

Jones improves to 11-4 overall, 3-0 in the division.

Cheney paced East Central with 24 points. Katreece Bender added 12, and Shannon Lloyd added 11.

The Lady Warriors are now 8-6, 0-3.

East Central (men)	**90**
Jones	**80**

East Central coach Billy Smith was pleased with his team's first division win.

"We hit a lot of free throws at the end, and I thought that was the difference," he said. "This was our first road win in conference and that's always big. I was just proud of the effort our guys gave. I thought we played hard."

On the other hand, Jones coach Robert McInnis was not happy with the way the Bobcats responded to a 92-87 overtime loss at home against Hinds last week.

"I'm very disappointed," he said. "I don't know what caused us to come out and play so lackadaisical that caused us not to get loose balls. I don't understand a lot of things about basketball.

"I thought our players, individually and one-on-one, were better players. But the way they (East Central) came out and chased the ball and outhustled us, obviously they came out with a better team."

East Central led for most of the first half, but the Bobcats took a 42-41 halftime lead on a 3-pointer by Stanley Brownlee with 17 seconds left.

The Bobcats took their largest lead of the game at 61-55 with 12:41 left when Duran Eckford made a free throw.

The Warriors came back and took a 70-68 lead with 8:59 left when Jacques Jones slammed in a dunk. Brownlee then tied it at the 8:28 mark.

That's when East Central went on an 8-0 run, capped by an Andre Coleman basket. That put the Warriors ahead 78-70 with 6:48 remaining.

The Bobcats got within 84-80 with 2:40 remaining when Jammie Evans scored, but they did not score again.

Andrew Lewis led East Central, 4-10 overall and 1-2 in the division, with 21 points. Ricardo Alcantar added 15, Andre Coleman had 12 and Pierre Barlow added 10.

Evans paced Jones (8-5, 1-2) with 25 points. Brownlee added 18, Prince Trotter had 11 and Eckford had 10. Brownlee finished with a double-double, grabbing 10 boards.

WEEK OF Jan 24

EC Lady Warriors Snap Losing Streak With Win

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR – A three-game losing skid came to an end for the East Central Community College Lady Warriors who cruised to an 84-47 thumping of Hinds Community College Thursday.

The easy victory also provided the East Central women with their first South Division win in four tries. The Lady Warriors improved to 9-6 overall while the Lady Bulldogs fell to 3-11 and 0-4.

Tierra Young led the Lady Warriors in scoring with 14 points. Also scoring were Shannon Lloyd, Kristin Chaney and Aja Loveless, eight each; LaSaundra Harrison, Kim Cox of Lake and Kotreece Bender, seven each; Sara Judice and India Backstrom, six each; Dominetrix Hunter, four; Heather Steele and Roxanna Rogers of Lake, three each; and Ashley Flint, one.

In the men's contest, East Central was outscored 90-76 by the Eagles who remain undefeated in division play. With the loss, EC dropped to 4-11 overall and 1-3 in division play.

Warrior point makers were Andrew Lewis of Morton and Tawon Walker, 16 each; Ryan Hudson of Louisville, nine; Garrick Nichols, eight; Pierre Barlow of Scott Central, seven; Ryan Rodgers, Atlanta, Ga., six; Ricardo Alcantar, five; Andre Coleman, Jacques Jones of Forest, Chavlon Ellis and Justin Harris, two each; and Coshune Bingham, one.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

24

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

CUTTING THROUGH

East Central Community College's Kristin Chaney, middle, tries to work her way through Meridian Community Collge's defenders, as the Lady Eagles' Karmethia Mazique, right, takes a swat at the ball.

ECCC sweeps MCC

By Marty Stamper

staff writer

Led by 6-foot-2 center Shannon Lloyd's 20 points and 13 rebounds, the East Central Community College Lady Warriors whipped MACJC South Division leader Meridian Community College 85-67 Thursday night.

It was one of ECCC's biggest wins this season.

"For this year, Northeast and this one you'd have to

coach Brad Hodge. "You have to give credit to them for the position they were in. Definitely, this was a good one."

The Lady Warriors came out hot, taking a 14-1 lead in the first three minutes and eight seconds. In the outburst, freshman Tierra Young hit two 3-pointers and had nine of ECCC's points.

"We didn't have one person that played solid for 40 minutes, but we had eight-to-10 that gave contributions throughout the game and Tierra Young came out on fire," Hodge said.

MCC began controlling the boards and closed to within 25-19 with 7:34 left in the half. A 7-0 run pulled the

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From Page B1

Lady Eagles to within 27-26 with 4:12 to go in the half.

ECCC took a 38-37 lead into halftime.

Kristin Chaney continued the outside shooting when she connected on a 3-pointer 24 seconds into the second half. A trey by Young put the Lady Warriors up 44-37 with 18:29 to play, and MCC faced an uphill battle the rest of the night.

The Lady Eagles rallied to within 50-48 on a 3-pointer by Stephanie Douglas, but Lloyd, a West Lauderdale graduate, took over, scoring five of the Lady Warriors' six baskets in a 12-3 run that saw the visitors extend their lead to 58-48.

India Backstrom, who picked up two fouls in the game's first 33 seconds and sat most of the first half, added to ECCC's inside scoring punch. In fact, Backstrom and Lloyd combined for nine of ECCC's 11 baskets in a 10-minute stretch.

Lloyd made 10-of-11 field goals. Of her 13 rebounds, six were on the offensive end.

"I didn't think that we could do that," Hodge said of his team's inside point production. "They've got a strong, big inside game that had me scared to death. Our posts just decided to play at that stage when we needed something. It's definitely an improvement from where we were earlier this year with our post game.

"Shannon was a big spark in this ballgame. Obviously, she had a little more to play for with this being in her backyard. It's one of her best games this year."

MCC got to within 66-60 on a basket by J.J. Huggins with 7:35 left, but ECCC's Sara Judice scored on a spin move and Kim Cox converted a steal into a layup to put the Lady Warriors up 74-64 with 4:12 to go.

Cox made all six of her free throws over the final six and a half minutes to enable ECCC to finish 11-of-20 at the line.

ECCC also got 14 points

> *Shannon (Lloyd) was a big spark in this ballgame. Obviously, she had a little more to play for with this being her backyard.*
>
> **Lady Warriors coach Brad Hodge**

from Young, 12 points, seven rebounds and six assists from Cox, 11 points from Kotreece Bender, nine points, seven rebounds and eight assists from Chaney, nine points from Backstrom and eight points from Judice.

MCC got 16 points from Huggins, 12 from Douglas, nine each from Karmethia Mazique and Shunda Starks and eight from Courtney Wade.

ECCC (men)	**90**
MCC	**87**

Those who stayed for the men's game saw a dandy that came down to the final horn as the bottom two teams in the South Division staged a thriller before the Warriors came away with the win.

ECCC improved to 2-4 in the division and 5-12 overall. MCC fell to 0-6 and 3-14.

ECCC struck early, taking a 15-5 lead. The Warriors were up 43-38 going into halftime.

MCC led by as much as four points in the second half and took an 87-86 lead on a 3-pointer by Jordan Payne with 1:09 to play.

After a Warrior turnover, ECCC's Terrance McNichols came up with a loose ball and was fouled with 14.7 seconds left. He canned both free shots to put the Warriors up 88-87.

Garrick Nichols picked off a Eagle inbounds pass with six seconds left and scored on a breakaway with 0.6 seconds showing.

MCC's Rico Gray missed a heave from just inside midcourt as the final horn sounded.

ECCC got 17 points from Ryan Hudson, 11 from McNichols, 10 from Chavlon Ellis, nine from Ricardo Alcantar and eight from Andrew Lewis.

MCC got 24 points from Payne, 13 each from Gray and Robert Johnson, 11 from Keno Winston and eight each from Stanley Turner and Rashard

WEEK OF Jan 24

EC Lady Warriors snap losing streak by trouncing Hinds 84-47

A three-game losing skid came to an end for the East Central Community College Lady Warriors who cruised to an 84-47 thumping of Hinds Community College Thursday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

The easy victory also provided the East Central women with their first South Division win in four tries. The Lady Warriors improved to 9-6 overall while the Lady Bulldogs fell to 3-11 and 0-4.

Tierra Young of South Leake led the Lady Warriors in scoring with 14 points. Also scoring were Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale, Kristin Chaney of Newton County and Aja Loveless of Newton, eight each; LaSaundra Harrison of Union, Kim Cox of Lake and Kotreece Bender of Newton, seven each; Sara Judice of Teurlings Catholic (Lafayette, La.) and India Backstrom of Neshoba Central, six each; Dominetrix Hunter of Philadelphia, four; Heather Steele of Nanih Waiya and Roxanna Rogers of Lake, three each; and Ashley Flint of Choctaw Central, one.

LaShawnda Pryor of Ferriday, La., led Hinds with 11 points.

EC held a 46-28 advantage at halftime.

In the men's contest, East Central was outscored 90-76 by the Eagles who remain undefeated in division play.

With the loss, EC dropped to 4-11 overall and 1-3 in division play, while Hinds improved to 9-5 and 4-0.

Warrior point makers were Andrew Lewis of Morton and Tawon Walker of Neshoba Central, 16 each; Ryan Hudson of Louisville, nine; Garrick Nichols of Thomastown, eight; Pierre Barlow of Scott Central, seven; Ryan Rodgers of Tri Cities High School, Atlanta, Ga., six; Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County, five; Andre Coleman of Louisville, Jacques Jones of Forest, Chavlon Ellis of South Leake and Justin Harris, a product of Southside High School in Atlanta, two each; and Coshune Bingham of Newton, one.

Kiki Christmas of Jackson pumped in 26 points to lead Hinds.

The Bulldogs led 39-30 at the break.

ECCC hosts Southwest Mississippi Community College Monday night and travels to Meridian Community College on Thursday, January 27.

The Lady Warriors of East Central Community College cruised to a 77-58 win over visiting Southwest Mississippi Community College Monday night, but the Warriors were not as fortunate in their matchup as they were edged 56-55 to the Southwest men.

India Backstrom of Neshoba Central had 11 points to lead the Lady Warriors who improved to 10-6 overall and 2-3 in South Division action.

Other point makers were Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale and Kristin Chaney of Newton County, 10 each; Kim Cox of Lake and Sara Judice, a product of Teurlings Catholic High School in Lafayette, La., nine each; Kotreece Bender of Newton, eight; Aja Loveless of Newton, seven; Heather Steele of Nanih Waiya and Tierra Young of South Leake, six each; and Roxana Rogers of Lake, one.

Michelle Cochran of Chatawa had 14 points to lead the Lady Bears, who slipped to 2-11 and 0-5.

East Central held a slim 32-30 advantage at halftime.

In the men's contest, the Warriors dropped another close contest after Ryan Hudson's potential game-winning lay-in would not fall as time was expiring and Southwest held on for the one-point victory.

East Central, which dropped to 4-12 and 1-4, has lost three division contests by a combined nine points (Co-Lin, 76-73; Gulf Coast, 84-79; and Southwest, 56-55).

Tawon Walker of Neshoba Central was the leading scorer for EC against Southwest; as he pumped in 13 points. Also scoring were Andrew Lewis of Morton, 11; Hudson, a product of Louisville High School, nine; Terrance McNichols of Gautier and Coshune Bingham of Newton, six each; Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County, five; Andre Coleman of Louisville and Garrick Nichols of Thomastown, two each; and Ryan Rodgers, a product of Tri Cities High School in Atlanta, Ga., one.

Devin Jones of Vicksburg pumped in 16 points for the Bears, who improved to 8-5 and 2-3.

EC led 31-24 at the break.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors travel to Meridian Community College Thursday night and host Pearl River Community College Monday night. The ECCC/PRCC games can be heard on KICKS 98 (98.3 FM) featuring veteran broadcaster Melvin Wooten.

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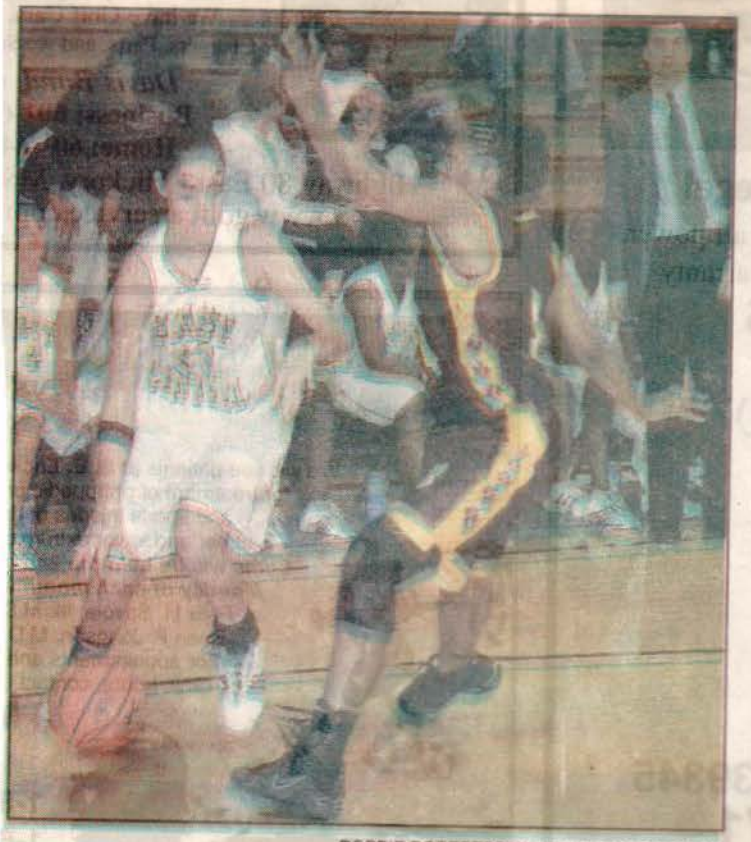
SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

IMPACT

NEWTON RECORD

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER



ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

Lady Warriors back on track in South Division with pair of wins

■ Lady Warriors now stand at 10-6 on season while Warriors fall to 4-12.

Special to The Record

The Lady Warriors of East Central Community College cruised to a 77-58 win over visiting Southwest Mississippi Community College Monday night, but the Warriors were not as fortunate in their matchup as they were edged 56-55 by the Southwest men.

India Backstrom of Neshoba Central had 11 points to lead the Lady Warriors who improved to 10-6 overall and 2-3 in South Division action.

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See ECCC

Upcoming

■ The Lady Warriors and Warriors travel to Meridian Community College Thursday night and hosts Pearl River Community College Monday night. The ECCC/PRCC games can be heard on KICKS 98 [illegible] featuring veteran broadcaster Melvin Wooten.

ECCC

From Page 1B

Michelle Cochran of Chatawa had 14 points to lead the Lady Bears, who slipped to 2-11 and 0-5.

East Central held a slim 32-30 advantage at halftime.

Southwest (M) 56, ECCC 55

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Tawon Walker of Neshoba Central was the leading scorer for EC against Southwest, as he pumped in 13 points. Also scoring were Andrew Lewis of Morton, 11; Hudson, a product of Louisville High School, nine; Terrance McNichols of Gautier and Coshune Bingham of Newton, six each.

Devin Jones of Vicksburg pumped in 16 points for the Bears, who improved to 8-5 and 2-3. EC led 31-24 at the break.

ECCC (W) 84, Hinds 47

A three-game losing skid came to an end for the East Central Community College Lady Warriors who cruised to an 84-47 thumping of Hinds Community College Thursday night on the Decatur campus.

The easy victory also provided the East Central women with their first South Division win in four tries. The Lady Warriors improved to 9-6 overall while the Lady Bulldogs fell to 3-11 and 0-4.

Tierra Young of South Leake led the Lady Warriors in scoring with 14 points. Also scoring were Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale, Kristin Chaney of Newton County and Aja Loveless of Newton, eight each; LaSaundra Harrison of Union, Kim Cox of Lake and Kotreece Bender of Newton, seven each.

EC held a 46-28 advantage at halftime.

Hinds (M) 90, ECCC 76

In the men's contest, East Central was outscored 90-76 by the Eagles who remain undefeated in division play.

With the loss, EC dropped to 4-11 overall and 1-3 in division play, while Hinds improved to 9-5 and 4-0.

Warrior point makers were Andrew Lewis of Morton and Tawon Walker of Neshoba Central, 16 each; Ryan Hudson of Louisville, nine; Garrick Nichols of Thomastown, eight; Pierre Barlow of Scott Central, seven.

Kiki Christmas of Jackson pumped in 26 points to lead Hinds. The Bulldogs led 39-30 at the break.

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WEEK OF Jan 24

ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

Cameron Boone, 18 months, daughter of East Central Community College assistant football coach Chris Boone, is shown with her mother, Coco, at Thursday night's East Central-Hinds basketball game.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Jan 31

Lady Warriors win fourth straight division contest

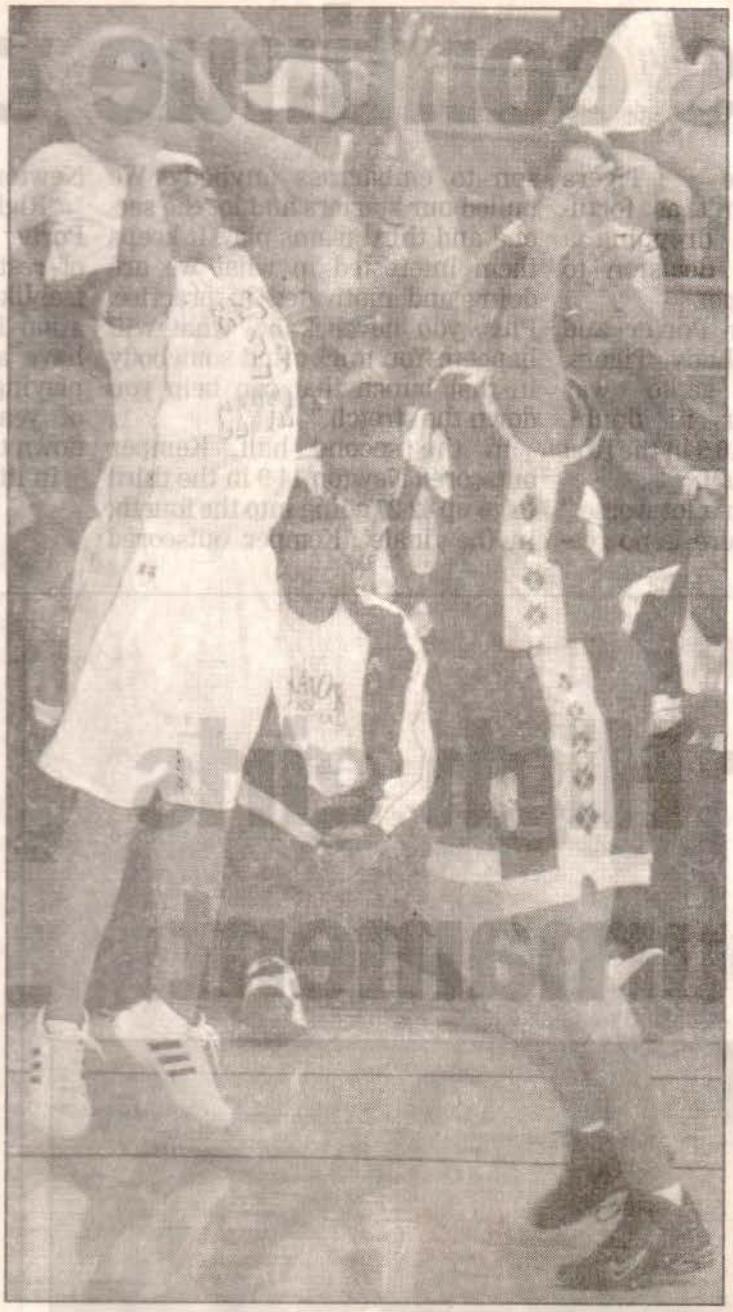
Special to The Record

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors won their fourth consecutive South Division matchup Monday night by downing the Pearl River Community College women 64-51 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

With the win, the East Central women improved to 4-3 in league play and 12-6 overall. After losing their first three division battles, the defending region/state champion Lady Warriors are back in the playoff hunt behind Gulf Coast (6-1), Copiah-Lincoln (5-2), Meridian (5-2) and Jones (5-2). The top four teams in each division qualify for the state tournament.

Kim Cox of Lake was the leading scorer for EC against Pearl River, as she pumped in 14 points. Also scoring were Kotreece Bender of Newton, 12; Kristin Chaney of Newton County, 11; Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale and India Backstrom of Neshoba Central, nine each; Sara Judice, a product of Teurlings Catholic High School, Lafayette, La., four; Tierra Young of South Leake, three; and Heather Steele of Nanih Waiya, two.

East Central held a 39-23 advantage at the break.



ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____ NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

UNION APPEAL _____ NEWTON RECORD ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____ MERIDIAN STAR _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____ CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

Pearl River (M) 90, ECCC 71

In the men's game, the Warriors (5-13, 2-5) were outscored 90-71 by the visiting Wildcats.

EC point makers were Terrance McNichols of Gautier and Tawon Walker of Neshoba Central, 15 each; Andre Coleman of Louisville, 12; Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County, 10; Coshune Bingham of Newton, five; Garrick Nichols of Thomastown, four; Ryan Hudson of Louisville and Justin Harris, a product of Southside High School in Atlanta, Ga., three each; and Chavlon Ellis of South Leake and Jacquas Jones of Forest, two.

Alton Robinson of Hattiesburg pumped in 36 points to lead Pearl River, which improved to 10-8 and 4-3.

The Wildcats led 37-26 at halftime.

ECCC teams will be on the road this Thursday to take on Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson. The Lady Warriors and Warriors host Gulf Coast Monday night. The womens' contest begins at 6 p.m. with men's action getting under way at 8 p.m. The ECCC/Gulf Coast games can be heard on KICKS 98 (98.3 FM) featuring veteran broadcaster Melvin Wooten.

East Central Community College's Kotreece Bender, a former Newton High standout, puts up a shot againt Hinds Community College earlier this season.

ECCC (W) 85, Meridian 67

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors won their third-straight division contest in grand style Thursday night as they upset home standing Meridian Community College 85-67 and handed the Lady Eagles their first loss in league competition. The Warriors were also victorious over the MCC men, as they held on for a 90-87 victory.

Shannon Lloyd, a product of West Lauderdale High School, pumped in 20 points had 13 rebounds to lead the Lady Warriors who improved to 11-6 overall and 3-3 in league play. Also scoring were Tierra Young of South Leake, 14; Kim Cox of Lake, 12; Kotreece Bender of Newton, 11; Kristin Chaney of Newton County and India Backstrom of Neshoba Central, nine each; Sara Judice, a product of Teurlings Catholic High School in Lafayette, La., eight; and LaSaundra Harrison of Union, two.

J.J. Huggins had 16 to lead MCC, which fell to 13-4 and 5-1. East Central led 38-37 at halftime.

ECCC (M) 90, Meridian 87

Ryan Hudson of Louisville had 13 points to lead the Warriors who improved to 5-12 and 2-4.

Other point makers were Garrick Nichols of Thomastown and Terrance McNichols of Gautier, 11 each; Chavlon Ellis of South Leake, 10; Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County, nine; Andrew Lewis of Morton, eight; Andre Coleman of Louisville, seven; Tawon Walker of Neshoba Central, six; Pierre Barlow of Scott Central and Coshune Bingham of Newton, five each; Jacquas Jones of Forest, three; and Ryan Rodgers, a product of Tri Cities High School in Atlanta, Ga., two.

Jordan Payne had 24 points to lead MCC, which fell to 3-14 and 0-6.

The Warriors held a 43-38 advantage at the break.

WEEK OF Jan 31

ECCC Lady Warriors, Warriors defeat MCC squads

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors won their third-straight division contest in grand style Thursday night as they upset home standing Meridian Community College 85-67 and handed the Lady Eagles their first loss in league competition. The Warriors were also victorious over the MCC men, as they held on for a 90-87 victory.

Shannon Lloyd, a product of West Lauderdale High School, pumped in 20 points had 13 rebounds to lead the Lady Warriors who improved to 11-6 overall and 3-3 in league play. Also scoring were Tierra Young of South Leake, 14; Kim Cox of Lake, 12; Kotreece Bender of Newton, 11; Kristin Chaney of Newton County and India Backstrom of Neshoba Central, nine each; Sara Judice, a product of Teurlings Catholic High School in Lafayette, La., eight; and LaSaundra Harrison of Union, two. J.J. Huggins had 16 to lead MCC, which fell to 13-4 and 5-1. East Central led 38-37 at halftime. Ryan Hudson of Louisville had 13 points to lead the Warriors who improved to 5-12 and 2-4. Other point makers were Garrick Nichols of Thomastown and Terrance McNichols of Gautier, 11 each; Chavlon Ellis of South Leake, 10; Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County, nine; Andrew Lewis of Morton, eight; Andre Coleman of Louisville, seven; Tawon Walker of Neshoba Central, six; Pierre Barlow of Scott Central and Coshune Bingham of Newton, five each; Jacquas Jones of Forest, three; and Ryan Rodgers, a product of Tri Cities High School in Atlanta, Ga., two.

Jordan Payne had 24 points to lead MCC, which fell to 3-14 and 0-6.

The Warriors held a 43-38 advantage at the break.

In games scheduled this week, ECCC teams host Pearl River Community College on Monday, January 31 and travel to Copiah-Lincoln Community College Thursday, February 3. The Lady Warriors and Warriors entertain Gulf Coast on Monday, February 7. Monday night contests can be heard on KICKS 98 (98.3 FM) featuring veteran broadcaster Melvin Wooten.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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UNION APPEAL _____

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Jones sweeps ECCC

By Marty Stamper
staff writer

DECATUR — Jones Junior College claimed a r of MACJC South Division victories at East ntral Community College Thursday night with Lady Bobcats winning 71-63 and the Bobcats ing a 94-72 victory.

The Jones women entered the night tied with it Coast for first place in the division and mainned at least a share of the lead with the win.

Jones improved to 16-6 overall and 8-2 in the vision, with Brittany Baham scoring 27 points d Natalie Jordan adding 20. Baham, a 5-foot-11 phomore from New Orleans, also had a dozen bounds, while Jordan had six assists. Jordan d Brittany Martin both played the full 40 mines.

"It's tough to come here and beat East Central," said Jones head coach Sandra Sumrall. "They had some girls that were sick. We don't want them to be sick, but it surely helped us out.

"Baham stepped up for us tonight. She did a good job of handling the ball and bringing down the court when they started pressuring.

"We made our free throws down the stretch d that was a key. I was proud of the overall fort. This definitely was a nice win."

Jones led 33-27 at halftime and extended it to -29 in the first five minutes of the second half.

The Lady Warriors, defending state and region ampions, closed to within 67-62 on a 3-point sket by Roxana Rogers with 21 seconds left, but nes made all four of its final free throws to ure the victory.

Jones had earlier beaten the Lady Warriors by points at Ellisville.

"We just didn't play very well in either game," id ECCC head coach Brad Hodge. "You can ake excuses about us not being 100 percent night, but we've got to play.

"We dug ourselves too big of a hole not making ee throws and not making shots to start the cond half. We fought to get back to within three ssessions with under 30 seconds.

"You've got to give Jones credit. They just ayed their tail off. Their two big girls played an cellent ballgame. We couldn't make the right justments at the right times."

ECCC fell to 14-7 overall and 6-4 in the division having a six-game winning streak snapped. The dy Warriors were outrebounded 38-34, made ly 5-of-15 free throws and had 20 turnovers.

"It's hard to win ballgames when you do that," odge said. "If you want to win championships, u've got to rebound, defend and make free rows. We definitely shot ourselves in the foot on

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIA

LOOKING FOR ROOM

East Central Community College's Kristin Chaney tries to maneuver a shot between Jones Junior College's Brittany Baham and Shalanda Carter.

From Page B1

Jones (men)	**94**
ECCC	**72**

In what Jones head coach Robert McInnis called an up-and-down year prior to Thursday's contest, the Bobcats rode a hot-shooting touch to the 22-point win.

Jones made 38-of-69 (55.1 percent) shots from the floor. The Bobcats made half of their 20 3-point attempts and hit eight of their 10 free throws.

After scoring the game's first nine points, Jones extended its lead to 27-14 on a 3-pointer by Duran Eckford with 7:20 to go in the first half.

ECCC closed to to within 32-

second half. The Bobcats got back-to-back treys from Eckford to extend their lead to 66-40 with just under 14 minutes left and led by as many as 28 points.

Six Bobcats scored in double figures as Jones improved to 11-9 overall and 4-6 in the division. Dwight Tolbert had 18 points, Stanley Brownlee had 15, Prince Holmes 14, Eckford and Cedrick Jones both had 13 and Jammie Evans had 10.

Jones also held a 44-29 advantage on the boards with Brownlee and Tolbert both getting seven rebounds. Holmes had five assists.

ECCC (5-16, 2-8) got 11 points each from Tawon Walker and Coshune Bingham and 10

Strong second half propels ECCC won

By Marty Stamper
staff writer

DECATUR — The good news for the East Central Community College Lady Warriors in Monday's game with MACJC South Division-leading Mississippi Gulf Coast was that they were still very much in the contest despite scoring just 20 points in the first half.

Trailing 28-20 at intermission, the Lady Warriors used a 45-28 second-half advantage to take a 65-56 victory and improved to 14-6 overall and 6-3 in the division. Gulf Coast dropped to 16-4 and 7-2.

Scoring in the first half was sporadic at best for the Lady Warriors. They even struggled at the free-throw line, making just 4-of-12 attempts.

"That definitely was the worst offensive half we've had all year," said ECCC head coach Brad Hodge. "We shot 32 percent that first half.

"This team shoots too well for us to worry about that. We told them that our defense had kept us alive. We were within just four possessions."

It wouldn't take the Lady Warriors long to establish their offense in the second half. Tierra Young hit two baskets in the first 42 seconds to cut ECCC's deficit to four points.

> *Good shooting cures a lot of ills. We finally made some shots and got the ball moving against that zone defense and got it inside the zone and made some big shots.*
>
> ECCC head coach Brad Hodge

After a basket by Gulf Coast's Veronica Palmer gave the Lady Bulldogs a 30-24 lead, the Lady Warriors went on a 14-0 run and scored 20 of the next 22 points to grab a 44-32 advantage.

"Good shooting cures a lot of ills," Hodge said. "We finally made some shots and got the ball moving against that zone defense and got it inside the zone and made some big shots."

Holding Gulf Coast to only four points over the first 10 minutes of the second half was a major key in the Lady Warriors' sixth-straight league win.

"That's what's got us where we're at," Hodge said of the defensive pressure. "They've bought into it, and they've done a great job with applying defensive pressure. Gulf Coast had 56 points for the game and that's a group that was averaging about 75. That's a commitment our players have made, and it's paid off so far."

The Lady Warriors turned the game over to Kristin Chaney in the final six minutes, as she scored 13 of ECCC's last 16 points. Included in that stretch was an 11-of-13 effort at the free-throw line.

Chaney finished with 18 points and seven rebounds. Young had 15 points, while India Backstrom had 11. Kotreece Bender added nine, Sara Judice had six points and eight rebounds, and Shannon Lloyd had five points. Kim Cox had three steals.

"We've still got to get three more wins to guarantee we qualify (for the state and region tournaments)," Hodge said. "
regular-season championship,
on a lot of other people, plus
care of our business. It's a tigl
tunately, there's going to be a
sitting at home from the Sout
just got to hope it's not us."

Gulf Coast got 16 points
eight each from Brittney
McClindo, and Davina Wells.

Gulf Coast (men) ECCC

After ending regulation tie
riors scored the first seven poi
go up 93-86 on a 3-pointer by
with 3:43 on the clock.

Gulf Coast pulled even at 9
Courtenay Brown with 27.6 se

The Warriors were setting
shot, but A.J. Magee picked

See ECCC
Page B2

From Page B1

Alcantar and laid it up for two points. Alcantar was also called for an intentional foul on the play with Magee making both free shots for a 99-95 lead with only 3.5 seconds to play.

"It's never over until it's over, but I thought this was one of the better games that our guys have played," said ECCC head coach Bill Smith. "Gulf Coast is one of the top two teams in the South (Division), and we had a chance to win. The guys played hard and we had a chance to take the last shot in overtime and threw it away. I was proud of the way the guys played."

The Warriors (5-15, 2-7) got 15 points each from Ryan Hudson and Andrew Lewis, 11 each from Alcantar and Tawon Walker, nine each from Andre Coleman and Garrick Nichols and eight each from Jacquas Jones and Terrance McNichols.

Magee led Gulf Coast (15-5, 7-2) with 34 points. J.T. Fields had 16, Garland Stewart 14, Marcus Millender 12 and Jason Watson 10.

The Warriors led by as many as 11 points in the first half and took a 45-36 lead into halftime.

ECCC went up 86-83 on a three-point play by Nichols with 1:05 left in regulation only to have the Bulldogs pull even on a trey by Magee 18 seconds later. Magee missed a shot at the buzzer for the win in regulation.

APPEARED IN:
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WEEK OF Feb 7

East Central women get league

from school reports

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors defeated Pearl River and Copiah-Lincoln last week to raise their league record to 5-3 and their overall mark to 13-6.

The Warriors lost to both teams as they fell to 2-6 and 5-14.

• **EC women 64, Pearl River 51:** The Lady Warriors won their fourth consecutive South Division matchup on Jan. 31 at Decatur. EC improved to 4-3 in league play and 12-6 overall.

Kim Cox of Lake was the leading scorer for EC as she pumped in 14 points. Also scoring were Kotreece Bender with 12, Kristin Chaney with 11, and Shannon Lloyd and India Backstrom with nine each.

Carmen Labat had 17 points to lead the Lady Wildcats, who fell to 9-9 and 2-5.

EC held a 39-23 advantage at the break.

• **Pearl River men 90, EC 71:** The Warriors fell to 5-13 overall and 2-5 in the division with the 19-point homecourt loss.

EC point makers were Terrance McNichols of Gautier and Tawon Walker of Neshoba Central with 15 each, Andre Coleman with 12, Ricardo Alcantar with 10, and Coshune Bingham with five.

Alton Robinson of Hattiesburg pumped in 36 points to lead Pearl River, which improved to 10-8 and 4-3.

wins over Pearl River, Co-Lin

The Wildcats led 37-26 at halftime.

• **EC women 61, Copiah-Lincoln 55:** Shannon Lloyd pumped in 15 points and Kristin Chaney added 12 to lead the Lady Warriors to their fifth-straight win Thursday at Wesson. With the victory, the Lady Warriors improved to 13-6 overall and 5-3 in South Division action. Co-Lin is also 5-3 in the division and dropped to 12-7 overall.

Other EC scorers were Tierra Young with 10, Kotreece Bender with nine, Kim Cox with seven, and India Backstrom and Sara Judice with four each.

The Lady Warriors led 33-25 at halftime.

• **Copiah-Lincoln men 79, EC 70:** The Warriors saw their record dip to 5-14 and 2-6 with Thursday's loss at Wesson. Co-Lin improved to 13-6 and 7-1.

EC point makers were Ryan Hudson of Louisville with 15, Tawon Walker and Garrick Nichols with 11 each, Andre Coleman with seven, Coshune Bingham with six, Terrance McNichols with five; and Pierre Barlow and Jacquas Jones with four each.

EC held a 33-32 advantage at the break.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors will host Jones County Thursday night. Both squads travel to Hinds on Monday, Feb. 14. The EC-Jones matchup has been designated as "Warrior Club Appreciation Night."

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT

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MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF Feb 7

ECCC sweeps Hinds on the road

RAYMOND — East Central Community College's women's basketball team cruised to a 73-44 win over Hinds Community College on Monday, and the Warriors posted a 70-67 win over the Eagles.

In the women's game, Shannon Lloyd paced the Lady Warriors' (15-7, 7-4) offense with 12 points, and Kristin Chaney, Tierra Young and Sara Judice each tallied 10 for ECCC, which held a 30-19 haltime lead.

Kimberly Brown scored a game-high 18 points for Hinds (4-18, 0-11), and Briteny Lorthridge added 12.

In the men's game, Ryan Hudson scored a team-high 22 points for the Warriors, which led 34-33 at halftime. Garrick Nichols scored 17 points for ECCC (6-16, 3-8), and Andre Coleman added 10.

Kiki Christmas tallied a game-high 27 points for Hinds (13-9, 8-3), and Keron Jackson added 17.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF Feb. 7

ECCC Lady Warriors continue win streak

Shannon Lloyd pumped in 15 points and Kristin Chaney added 12 to lead the East Central Community College women to their fifth straight win, a 61-55 decision over Copiah-Lincoln Community College Thursday night on the Wesson campus.

With the victory, the Lady Warriors improved to 13-6 overall and 5-3 in South Division action. Co-Lin is also 5-3 in the division and dropped to 12-7 overall. EC scorers in addition to Lloyd, a product of West Lauderdale High School and Chaney, a former standout at Newton County, were Tierra Young of South Leake, 10; Kotreece Bender of Newton, nine; Kim Cox of Lake, seven; and India Backstrom of Neshoba Central and Sara Judice, a product of Teurlings Catholic School, Lafayette, La., four each.

The Lady Warriors led 33-25 at halftime.

In men's action, the Warriors were outscored 79-70 by the host Wolves and saw their record dip to 5-14 and 2-6. Co-Lin improved to 13-6 and 7-1.

EC point makers were Ryan Hudson of Louisville, 15; Tawon Walker of Neshoba Central and Garrick Nichols of Thomastown, 11 each; Andre Coleman of Louisville, seven; Coshune Bingham of Newton, six; Terrance McNichols of Gautier, five; Pierre Barlow of Scott Central and Jacquas Jones of Forest, four each; Andrew Lewis of Morton, three; and Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County and Chavlon Ellis of South Leake, two each.

East Central held a 33-32 advantage at the break.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors will host Gulf Coast Monday night and entertain Jones County Thursday night. Both squads travel to Hinds on Monday, February 14. Monday night games can be heard on KICKS 98 (98.3) with veteran broadcaster Melvin Wooten calling the action. The ECCC/Jones matchup has been designated as "Warrior Club Appreciation Night."

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT

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CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF Feb 19

ECCC teams sweep Hinds

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors moved a step closer to qualifying for post-season play and the Warriors snapped a four-game skid after both teams registered wins over Hinds Community College Monday night on the Utica campus.

The Lady Warriors cruised to an easy 73-44 decision over the Lady Bulldogs, while the Warriors held on for a 70-67 win over the Hinds men.

Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale scored 12 points to lead the East Central women who improved to 15-7 overall and 7-4 in South Division action. The Lady Warriors are currently fourth in the division standings, behind Gulf Coast (9-2) Jones (8-3) and Meridian (8-3). The top four teams in each division qualify for the state tournament.

In addition to Lloyd, other EC scorers were Kristin Chaney of Newton County, Tierra Young of South Leake and Sara Judice of Teurlings Catholic (La.) High School, 10 each; Kotreece Bender of Newton and Dominetrix Hunter of Philadelphia, six each; Kim Cox of Lake, five; LaSaundra Harrison of Union and India Backstrom of Neshoba Central, four each; and Ashley Flint of Choctaw Central, Heather Steele of Nanih Waiya and Roxana Rogers of Lake, two each.

The Lady Warriors held a 30-19 advantage at halftime over the Hinds women, whose record dipped to 4-19 and 0-11. Ryan Hudson of Louisville pumped in 22 point to lead the Warriors, whose record improved to 6-16 and 3-8. Also scoring were Garrick Nichols of Thomastown, 17; Andre Coleman of Louisville, 10; Pierre Barlow of Scott Central, nine; Jacquas Jones of Forest and Andrew Lewis of Morton, three each; and Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County, Jerry Luckett of South Leake and Justin Harris of Southside (Ga.) High School, two each.

The Warriors led 34-33 at halftime over the host Bulldogs, who fell to 13-8 and 8-3. The top teams in the division are Co-Lin (10-1), Hinds (8-3), Gulf Coast (7-4), Jones (5-6) and Pearl River (5-6). The South men's winner will serve as host of the state tournament.

Three regular season games remain for the Lady Warriors and Warriors, who travel to Southwest Mississippi Community College in Summit on Thursday, host Meridian Community College Monday night, and journey to Pearl River Community College on Thursday, February 24.

The ECCC/MCC contests can be heard on KICKS 98 (98.3 FM) with veteran broadcaster and ECCC alumnus Melvin Wooten of Carthage calling the action.

The East Central Community College women's basketball team saw their six-game win streak come to an end Thursday night as the Lady Warriors were outscored 71-63 by Jones County Junior College in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus. The Warriors also fell to the visiting Bobcats by a 94-72 margin. Kotreece Bender of Newton and Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale had 14 points each to lead East Central which fell to 14-7 overall and 6-4 in South Division action. Also scoring were Kim Cox of Lake, 12; Kristin Chaney of Newton County, eight; India Backstrom of Neshoba Central, seven; Sara Judice, a product of Teurlings Catholic High School in Lafayette, La., five; and Roxana Rogers of Lake, three.

Brittany Baham of New Orleans had 28 points to lead the Lady Bobcats who improved to 16-6 and 8-2.

Jones led 33-27 at halftime.

Tawon Walker of Neshoba Central and Coshune Bingham of Newton each had 11 points to lead the Warriors, whose record slipped to 5-16 and 2-8.

Other scorers were Andrew Lewis of Morton, 10; Garrick Nichols of Thomastown, seven; Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County and Chavlon Ellis of South Leake, six each; Ryan Hudson of Louisville and Terrance McNichols of Gautier, four each; Ryan Rodgers, a product of Tri Cities High School in Atlanta, Ga., and Jacques Jones of Forest, three each; and Pierre Barlow of Scott Central, Andre Coleman of Louisville, Jerry Luckett of South Leake and Justin Harris of Southside High School in Atlanta, two each.

Dwight Tolbert of Tifton, Ga., pumped in 18 points to lead the Bobcats who improved to 11-9 and 4-6.

EC trailed 40-32 at the break.

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WEEK OF Feb 14

Lady Warriors top Southwest

from staff reports

SUMMIT — East Central Community College scored a three-point, road win over Southwest Mississippi on Thursday night.

Kotreece Bender tallied 12 points and Sara Judice added 11 for the Lady Warriors (16-7) in the 58-55 win.

Alisha Lee scored a game-high 15 points for Southwest, and Tiffany Aych and Khrystal Tillman each added 11.

In the men's game, Southwest topped ECCC 72-62.

Chris Watson scored a team-high 13 points for Southwest, and Devin Jones added 12.

Ryan Hudson scored 13 points to lead the Warriors (6-17), and Garrick Nichols and Peirre Barlow each added 10.

ECCC continues the season with home games against Meridian Community College on Monday.

— Tony Krausz

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WEEK OF Feb 14

Warrior basketball heads toward finish

ECCC Lady Warriors Post Sixth Straight Win; Warriors Fall In OT

After trailing 28-20 at halftime, East Central Community College's Lady Warriors went on a 24-4 run and pounded South Division leader Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College 65-55 Monday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus. With the win, the EC women improved to 14-6 overall and 6-3 in division play and moved a step closer to qualifying for postseason play and defending their State and Region 23 titles. The Lady Bulldogs slipped to 16-4 and 7-2. Kristin Chaney, a product of Newton County High School, led EC with 18 points. Other point makers were Tierra Young of South Leake 15; India Backstrom of Neshoba Central, 11; Kotreece Bender of Newton, nine; Sara Judice of Teurlings Catholic High School, Lafayette, La, six; Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale, five; and Kim Cox of Lake, one. Veronica Palmer of Cincinnati, Ohio, pumped in 16 points to lead Gulf Coast. In the men's game, the Warriors were unable to tied 86-86 at the end of regulation.

ECCC Lady Warriors, Warriors Fall To JCJC Teams

The East Central Community College women's basketball team saw their six-game win streak come to an end Thursday night as the Lady Warriors were outscored 71-63 by Jones County Junior College in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus. The Warriors also fell to the visiting Bobcats by a 94-72 margin. Kotreece Bender of Newton and Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale had 14 points each to lead East Central which fell to 14-7 overall and 6-4 in South Division action. Also scoring were Kim Cox of Lake, 12; Kristin Chaney of Newton County, eight; India Backstrom of Neshoba Central, seven; Sara Judice, a product of Teurlings Catholic High School in Lafayette, La., five; and Roxana Rogers of Lake, three. Brittany Baham of New Orleans had 28 points to lead the Lady Bobcats who improved to 16-6 and 8-2. Jones led 33-27 at halftime. Tawon Walker of Neshoba Central and Coshune Bingham of Newton each had 11 points

ECCC Teams Sweep Hinds

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors moved a step closer to qualifying for post-season play and the Warriors snapped a four-game skid after both teams registered wins over Hinds Community College Monday night on the Utica campus. The Lady Warriors cruised to an easy 73-44 decision over the Lady Bulldogs, while the Warriors held on for a 70-67 win over the Hinds men. Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale scored 12 points to lead the East Central women who improved to 15-7 overall and 7-4 in South Division action. The Lady Warriors are currently fourth in the division standings, behind Gulf Coast (9-2) Jones (8-3) and Meridian (8-3). The top four teams in each division qualify for the state tournament. In addition to Lloyd, other EC scorers were Kristin Chaney of Newton County, Tierra Young of South Leake and Sara Judice of Teurlings Catholic (La.) High School, 10 each; Kotreece Bender of Newton and Dominetrix Hunter of Philadelphia, six each; Kim Cox of Lake, five; LaSaundra Harrison of Union and India halftime over the host Bulldogs, who fell to 13-8 and 8-3. The top teams in the division are Co-Lin (10-1), Hinds (8-3), Gulf Coast (7-4), Jones (5-6) and Pearl River (5-6). The South men's winner will serve as host of the state tournament. Three regular season games remain for the Lady Warriors and Warriors, who travel to Southwest Mississippi Community College in Summit on Thursday, host Meridian Community College Mon-

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day night, and journey to Pearl River Community College on Thursday, February 24. The ECCC/MCC contests can be heard on KICKS 98 (98.3 FM) with veteran broadcaster and ECCC alumnus Melvin Wooten of Carthage calling the action.

maintain their 45-36 advantage at the break and fell 99-95 in overtime to the visiting Bulldogs. Ryan Hudson of Louisville and Andrew Lewis of Morton each had 15 points for the Warriors, whose record dipped to 5-15 and 2-7. Also scoring were Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County and Tawon Walker of Neshoba Central, 11 each; Garrick Nichols of Thomastown and Andre Coleman of Louisville, nine each; Jacques Jones of Forest and Terrance McNichols of Gautier, eight each; Chavlon Ellis of South Leake, four; Pierre Barlow of Scott Central, three; and Coshune Bingham of Newton, two. A.J. Magee scored 34 points to lead Gulf Coast, which improved to 15-5 and 7-2. The game was to lead the Warriors, whose record slipped to 5-16 and 2-8. Other scorers were Andrew Lewis of Morton, 10; Garrick Nichols of Thomastown, seven; Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County and Chavlon Ellis of South Leake, six each; Ryan Hudson of Louisville and Terrance McNichols of Gautier, four each; Ryan Rodgers, a product of Tri Cities High School in Atlanta, Ga., and Jacques Jones of Forest, three each; and Pierre Barlow of Scott Central, Andre Coleman of Louisville, Jerry Luckett of South Leake and Justin Harris of Southside High School in Atlanta, two each. Dwight Tolbert of Tifton, Ga., pumped in 18 points to lead the Bobcats who improved to 11-9 and 4-6. EC trailed 40-32 at the break. Backstrom of Neshoba Central, four each; and Ashley Flint of Choctaw Central, Heather Steele of Nanih Waiya and Roxana Rogers of Lake, two each. The Lady Warriors held a 30-19 advantage at halftime over the Hinds women, whose record dipped to 4-19 and 0-11. Ryan Hudson of Louisville pumped in 22 point to lead the Warriors, whose record improved to 6-16 and 3-8. Also scoring were Garrick Nichols of Thomastown, 17; Andre Coleman of Louisville, 10; Pierre Barlow of Scott Central, nine; Jacquas Jones of Forest and Andrew Lewis of Morton, three each; and Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County, Jerry Luckett of South Leake and Justin Harris of Southside (Ga.) High School, two each. The Warriors led 34-33 at

WEEK OF Feb 14

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC Lady Warrior Basketball Team

The defending Region 23 and MACJC Champion Lady Warriors of East Central Community College and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) freshman guards Aja Loveless of Newton and Emily Massey (redshirt) of East Rankin Academy, and student assistants Lakeisha Bobbitt of Scott Central, Ashley Clark of Starkville Academy, Kasenda Overstreet of South Leake, Monica Carter of Noxapater, Jaimee Jones of Nanih Waiya and Krystle Hunter of Noxapater; (second row, from left) freshman guard Ashley Flint of Choctaw Central, freshman center Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale, freshman guard LaSaundra Harrison of Union, sophomore guard Kristin Chaney of Newton County, freshman guard Heather Steele of Nanih Waiya, sophomore guards Roxana Rogers and Kim Cox, both of Lake, and freshman guard Tierra Young of South Leake; and (back row, from left) head coach Brad Hodge, freshman forwards Dominetrix Hunter of Philadelphia and Sara Judice of Teurlings Catholic (Lafayette, La.), sophomore guard/forward Kotreece Bender of Newton, sophomore forward India Backstrom of Neshoba Central, freshman guards Erica Hardin of Louisville and Lauren White of Union, freshman center April Viverette of Lake and assistant coach Zareth Gray.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Feb 21

ECCC Lady Warriors clinch playoff berth following double OT win over MCC

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors needed to win one of their final two South Division contests to clinch a spot in the state playoffs and defend their MACJC title.

The ECCC women, led by fourth-year head coach Brad Hodge, accomplished their goal Monday night by earning a hard-fought 99-88 double overtime thriller over rival Meridian Community College before a packed Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

With the victory, EC improved to 17-7 overall and 9-4 in league play, the same record as MCC. Jones County is also 9-4 in division action followed by Copiah Lincoln's 8-4 mark. Gulf Coast sits atop the division standings at 11-2.

The top four teams advance to the state playoffs, which are scheduled February 28 - March 3 and will be hosted by the South men's winner (either Copiah-Lincoln or Hinds.)

Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale pumped in 26 points to lead the Lady Warriors, who completed a series sweep of their arch rival. EC handed the Lady Eagles their first division loss by posting an 85-67 decision on January 27 on the MCC campus.

Also scoring for EC were India Backstrom of Neshoba Central, 14; Kristin Chaney of Newton County and Kim Cox of Lake, 13 each; Kotreece Bender of Newton, 12; Tierra Young of South Leake, eight; Sara Judice of Teurlings (La.) Catholic High School, seven; and LaSaundra Harrison of Union, six.

Courtney Wade of Meridian had 19 points to lead the Lady Eagles.

The score was tied 80-80 at the end of the first overtime and 71-71 at the end of regulation. East Central led 44-42 at halftime.

In men's action, the Warriors were also victorious as they cruised to a 93-79 decision and a series sweep over the Eagles. East Central held on for a 90-87 win over MCC on January 27.

Ryan Hudson of Louisville had 23 points to lead EC, which improved to 7-17 and 4-9 under fourth-year head coach Billy Smith. Also scoring were Garrick Nichols of Thomastown, 17; Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County, 10; Pierre Barlow of Scott Central and Jacquas Jones of Forest, nine each; Andre Coleman of Louisville, seven; Terrance McNichols of Gautier, six; Coshune Bingham of Newton and Andrew Lewis of Morton, five each; and Ryan Rodgers of Tri Cities (Ga.) High School, two.

Rico Gray, a product of Jeff Davis High School, had 29 points to lead MCC, which fell to 5-19 and 2-11.

ECCC teams conclude regular season action Thursday night by challenging Pearl River Community College on the Poplarville campus.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ✓
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓
UNION APPEAL
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL
SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓
IMPACT

CARTHAGINIAN
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT
NEWTON RECORD ✓
MERIDIAN STAR ✓
CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF Feb 21

73-44

East Central women clinch playoff berth

by Marty Stamper

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors wrapped up a berth in the state and Region 23 Tournaments with a 99-88 double-overtime win over Meridian Monday at Decatur.

Heading into the regular season finale Thursday at Pearl River, the Lady Warriors are 17-7, while the Warriors are 7-17

• EC women 73, Hinds 44: EC rolled to an easy win at Utica on Feb. 14.

Shannon Lloyd scored 12 points to lead EC (15-7 overall and 7-4 in South Division action).

Kristin Chaney, Tierra Young, and Sara Judice each had 10 points, while Kotreece Bender and Dominetrix Hunter both had six.

EC led 30-19 at halftime.

Hinds fell to 4-19 and 0-11.

• EC men 70, Hinds 67: Ryan Hudson pumped in 22 points to lead the Warriors (6-16, 3-8) to their most impressive win of the season.

Garrick Nichols added 17, Andre Coleman 10, and Pierre Barlow nine.

The Warriors led 34-33 at halftime over the host Bulldogs (13-8, 8-3).

• EC women 58, Southwest 55: Kotreece Bender scored 12 points to lead EC in Thursday's win at Summit.

Also scoring were Sara Judice with 11 points, Roxana Rogers with nine, Kim Cox eight, Kristin Chaney six, and Shannon Lloyd, Tierra Young, and India Backstrom with four each.

EC, which improved to 16-7 and 8-4, held a 32-21 halftime advantage over the Lady Bears, who fell to 3-16 and 1-11.

• Southwest men 72, EC 62: The Warriors fell to 6-17 overall and 3-9 in the South Division with Thursday's loss at Summit.

Warrior point makers were Ryan Hudson with 13, Pierre Barlow and Garrick Nichols with 10 each, Andrew Lewis with nine, Ricardo Alcantar seven, and Andre Coleman four.

MACJC South Division

Women (Through Feb. 23)	Div.	All
Gulf Coast	11-2	20-4
East Central	9-4	17-7
Jones	9-4	17-8
Meridian	9-4	17-7
Copiah-Lincoln	8-5	15-9
Pearl River	5-8	12-12
Southwest	1-12	3-18
Hinds	0-13	4-21
Men		
Copiah-Lincoln	11-2	17-7
Hinds	10-3	15-9
Gulf Coast	7-6	15-9
Jones	6-7	13-10
Pearl River	6-7	12-12
Southwest	6-7	12-9
East Central	4-9	7-17
Meridian	2-11	5-19

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF Feb 28

Chaney's late free throws secure ECCC win over Holmes in MACJC Tourney

Kristin Chaney converted three of four throws in the game's final seconds and the East Central Community College women survived a late Holmes rally to post a 65-60 decision over the Lady Bulldogs Monday night in first-round action of the MACJC Tournament being held at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson.

Chaney, a product of Newton County High School, also led the Lady Warriors in scoring with 18 points and seven rebounds. Kim Cox of Lake pumped in 17 points and also pulled down seven rebounds. Other scorers were Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale and Tierra Young of South Leake, eight each; Kotreece Bender of Newton, seven; India Backstrom of Neshoba Central, four; and Heather Steele of Nanih Waiya, three. Ashley Howard had 15 points to lead Holmes (19-6), which rallied from a 17-point deficit to close within 62-60 with 26 seconds remaining.

But Chaney's clutch free throw shooting down the stretch represented the game's final points and EC held on for the narrow victory and its third win over Holmes in 2004-05. The Lady Warriors earlier posted 61-59 and 69-60 (OT) decisions over the Lady Bulldogs, the number two seed from the North. The Lady Warriors, the number three seed from the South, led 41-28 at halftime.

With the win, East Central (18-8) -the defending MACJC and Region 23 champions- advances to the semi-finals to face Mississippi Delta Community College at 6 p.m. Wednesday. Delta (number four seed from the North) upset the top seeded South squad Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College 83-77.

Northeast - the top seed from the North- defeated Meridian (number four South seed) 108-80, and Northwest (North number three seed) outlasted Jones County (South number two seed) 78-66 in games held earlier Monday. Northeast and Northwest will battle at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday in the other semi-final contest.

Finals in the women's division are set for 6 p.m. Thursday, followed by the men's championship game at 8 p.m.

Competing for the men's state title are Copiah-Lincoln, East Mississippi, Itawamba, Pearl River, Northwest, Gulf Coast, Hinds and Coahoma.

ECCC tournament action can be heard on KICKS 98 (98.3 FM) featuring veteran sports announcer Melvin Wooten of Carthage.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ✓
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓
UNION APPEAL ✓
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL
SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓
IMPACT

CARTHAGINIAN
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT
NEWTON RECORD ✓
MERIDIAN STAR
CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF Feb 28

ECCC Lady Warriors, Warriors Fall at Pearl River

DECATUR--Regular season competition came to a disappointing end for the East Central Community College Lady Warriors and Warriors who fell to Pearl River Community College squads Thursday night in Poplarville. The ECCC women - who are set to defend their MACJC title after earning a playoff spot earlier in the week - were edged 56-55 and the Warriors were outscored by a 77-64 margin. Kristin Chaney of Newton County had 17 points to lead the Lady Warriors who finished 17-8 overall and 9-5 in the South Division. Also scoring were Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale and Tierra Young of South Leake, 10 each; Kim Cox of Lake and Sara Judice, a product of Teurlings (La.) Catholic High School, six each; India Backstrom of Neshoba Central, four; and Kotreece Bender of Newton, two. Carmen Labat led Pearl River with 17 points. The Lady Wildcats (13-12, 6-8) held a 31-26 advantage at halftime. The ECCC women finished third in the division behind league champion Gulf Coast (12-2) and Jones (10-4). Meridian had the same division mark (9-5) as East Central, but finished fourth due to their two losses to the Lady Warriors. The top four teams in each division qualify for the state tournament, which is being held this year at Copiah-

See "ECCC" page 6

Lincoln Community College in Wesson. The Lady Warriors begin their quest for a second straight state title by taking on Holmes Community College. The ECCC/Holmes winner will meet the winner of the Gulf Coast/Delta matchup at 6 p.m. Wednesday. Finals are scheduled at 6 p.m. Thursday. In men's action, Andrew Lewis of Morton had 16 points to lead the Warriors, who finished 7-18 and 4-10. Other point makers were Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County, 10; Justin Harris of Southside (Ga.) High School, eight; Ryan Rodgers of Tri Cities (Ga.) High School, Pierre Barlow of Scott Central, Andre Coleman of Louisville and Garrick Nichols of Thomastown, five each; Ryan Hudson of Louisville, four; and Jacquas Jones of Forest, Chavlon Ellis of South Leake and Coshune Bingham of Newton, two each. Thomas Fraise pumped in 20 points to lead Pearl River, which finished 13-12 overall and placed third in the division with a 7-7 mark. The score was tied 28-28 at the break.

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CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF Feb 28

A needed break

East Central Community College's women's basketball team didn't return to the practice court until Sunday, after the team was eliminated last Wednesday from the MACJC State Tournament.

The Lady Warriors (18-9) lost to Mississippi Delta Community College 59-51 in the semifinals of the state tournament.

ECCC head coach Brad Hodge said the three-day break from basketball was necessary for his team to regroup for the Region XXIII Tournament.

"I haven't seen any of them since we got back from the state tournament," said Hodge, who led the Lady Warriors to the state and region championships and an appearance in the NJCAA national tournament last season. "We told them to get away and recharge their batteries. We have to have a 120 minutes, if we want to win (the Region XXIII tournament). We have to have legs and mental freshness, if we want to win.

"They were very broken hearted after losing Wednesday night," Hodge added. "As poorly as we played to still have a chance and let it slip away, their hearts were broken. That is why we got away."

ECCC opens play in the region tournament at 1 p.m. Tuesday against Gulf Coast Community College.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF March 7

Chaney carries East Central past Delta

By Ryan Satcher
staff writer

CLINTON — Kristin Chaney hit a three-pointer to send East Central into overtime against Mississippi Delta on Wednesday night, but apparently that wasn't enough for the sophomore.

The five-foot-six point guard hit another three-pointer at the buzzer in overtime to give East Central a 75-74 win in the semifinals of the Region 23 Tournament.

"The shot wasn't even for me," said Chaney. "It was supposed to go to Kotreece (Bender) down low. I went to get the ball inside to her and she was covered, so I knew I was a sophomore and I needed to step up, do or die. Fortunately, it was my shot, and I hit it."

> *That was a good flare for dramatics. Perseverance was obviously a big key. We just got down but never quit.*
>
> ECCC women's basketball coach Brad Hodge

The Lady Warriors were down by six points with 29 seconds left in the game but found a way to pull out the victory.

"If there is a word that can even come close, it's unbelievable," said ECCC coach Brad Hodge. "That was a good flare for dramatics. Perseverance was obviously a big key. We just got down but never quit. If you want to win championships, you have to demonstrate the heart of a champion, and this group did that."

In regulation, East Central was down by nine points with 1:28 seconds left and fought back to tie the game, led by two three-pointers by Roxana Rogers and the late three by Chaney.

"Roxana Rogers came in and hadn't played much and had struggled throughout the year, but never hung her head," Hodge said. "She made some huge threes that got us on a roll, and everybody else fed off that."

The Lady Warriors trailed 31-26 at half and Mississippi Delta stretched the lead out to as many as 12 points in the opening minutes of the second half.

East Central slowly battled back and cut the lead to three points with 5:01 left in the game.

The Lady Trojans responded with a pair of free throws from Latisha Brown and a three-pointer from Vancherrika Mitchell to make the score 53-44 with 1:28 left to play.

Chaney hit a pair of clutch free throws with 1:15 left to cut the lead to 53-46 and scored a bucket with 56 seconds left to cut the lead to five points.

Jessica Boyd hit both ends of a one-and-one situation for the Lady Trojans to stretch the lead back out to seven points but Rogers hit her first three with 44 seconds left to play to make the

See ECCC

From Page C1

score 55-51.

After a missed free throw by Mississippi Delta, Rogers hit her second three in as many trips and cut the lead to 55-54 with 26 seconds remaining.

Stephanie Boggans hit two free throws to stretch the lead to three points, but Chaney bombed a long range three-pointer with eight seconds left to tie the game 57-57.

The Lady Trojans turned the ball over with five seconds remaining and Tierra Young got off a good shot for the Lady Warriors at the buzzer, but the ball rolled out to send the game into overtime.

The two teams traded the lead back and forth for most of the overtime period before Mississippi Delta took a 69-66 lead on a three-point play from Brown.

The Lady Trojans stretched the lead out to 74-68 by hitting five free throws as East Central struggled on the offensive end.

Chaney scored the final seven points of the game to give the Lady Warriors the victory.

The sophomore scored with 20 seconds left to make the score 74-70. After a turnover, Chaney again scored to cut the lead to 74-72 with four seconds left to play.

On the inbounds after a timeout, Mississippi Delta fell out of bounds with the ball and gave East Central a chance with two seconds left on the clock.

Chaney took the in-bounds pass, dribbled several times, took a step back and nailed the three-pointer at the buzzer to give ECCC the 75-74 win.

The shot gave Chaney 31 points for the night. India Backstrom played well inside for the Lady Warriors and scored 14 points while Bender scored 10 points.

Mitchell led the Lady Trojans with 17 points in the loss.

The Lady Warriors, now 20-9 for the season, will move on to play the winner of the Northwest Mississippi/Northeast Mississippi game in the championship of the tournament tonight at 6 p.m.

"The job is not done," Hodge said. "It would have been nice to win the championship right there but they didn't hand out the trophy (Wednesday), so we've got to maintain focus and get ready."

IMPACT

WEEK OF March 7

Lady Trojans upset Lady Warriors in State Tourney

A second-straight state tournament title was not in the cards for the East Central Community College Lady Warriors who fell 59-51 to Mississippi Delta Community College Wednesday night in semi-final action of the MACJC Basketball State Championship held at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson.

The Lady Warriors, who began tournament competition Monday by downing Holmes Community College 65-60, trailed throughout most of the contest and took their first lead at 40-39 with 10:11 remaining on a bucket by Tierra Young of South Leake. Young would later tie the game at 51-51 with just under two minutes left, but the Lady Trojans responded with eight straight points, including a three-pointer at the buzzer by Vancherrika Mitchell of Cleveland. East Central, which fell to 18-9, was led by Kim Cox of Lake, who tallied 12 points. Also scoring was: Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale and Kotreece Bender of Newton, 11 each; Young, nine; India Backstrom of Neshoba Central, five; Kristin Chaney of Newton County, two; and Sara Judice of Teurlings (La.) Catholic, one.

Jazmaine Cain of Mound Bayou had 19 points to lead Delta, which improved to 17-7.

East Central, which trailed by as many as 12 points in first half action, cut the Delta lead to 23-21 at the break.

The Delta and Northwest women will battle for the state title tonight.

The Lady Rangers upset Northeast 84-81 Wednesday afternoon.

East Central will now set its sights on defending its Region 23 title during competition scheduled March 4-7 at Mississippi College in Clinton. Tournament brackets will be released following the state tournament.

Lady Warrior tournament action can be heard on KICKS 98 (98.3FM) featuring veteran sports announcer Melvin Wooten of Carthage.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF March 7

ECCC falls in region title game

By Ryan Satcher
staff writer

CLINTON — On Wednesday night, the East Central Community College Lady Warriors pulled of the unbelievable. But on Thursday night, the Lady Warriors ran out of luck and, more importantly, they ran out of legs.

East Central pushed Northwest Community College to the limit but couldn't pull another trick out of its sleeve in a 58-55 loss in the championship game of the Region XXIII junior college tournament at A.E. Wood Coliseum.

"We gave it all we had," said ECCC coach Brad Hodge. "We just didn't have enough in our tank tonight."

Coming off a 75-74 overtime win on Wednesday, the Lady Warriors (20-10) opened Thursday night's game cold, and Northwest took advantage with a 15-5 run.

The Lady Rangers got seven points from Candy Hall in the run and opened up an 23-13 lead.

East Central fought back as Tierra Young hit a pair of threes and a two to cut the lead to 25-21.

Kotreece Bender followed with a basket and Kim Cox hit a three-pointer to give East Central a 26-25 lead with 2:06 left in the first half.

Northwest followed with a three-pointer but East Central tied the game with a bucket from Shannon Lloyd with five seconds left in the half.

In the second half, the Lady Warriors took a 40-38 lead as Roxana Rogers hit two three-pointers in the opening six minutes.

Northwest stretched out a 52-44 lead with 4:55 left to play with a 14-4 run.

East Central fought back strong and cut the lead to six points on a bucket from Bender with 3:54 left.

Kristin Chaney followed with a clutch three-pointer to make the score 54-51 with 2:49 left.

After Northwest hit a free throw, Young hit a pair of free throws to cut the lead to two points.

Northwest ran the clock down to 38 seconds before forcing up a long three-pointer but Hall came away with the rebound and East Central was forced to foul.

Nikita Taylor stepped to the line with 29 seconds left and made two free throws to make the score 57-53.

After a missed shot by East Central, Laketia Stephens hit a free throw to make the score 58-53 with 17 seconds left.

The Lady Warriors answered with a three-pointer from Young to make the score 58-55 and got the ball back with a jump ball with six seconds remaining.

East Central got off a three-pointer in the final seconds but this time the ball rolled away and Northwest held on for the 58-55 win.

"We have nothing to be ashamed of," Hodge said

Young scored 16 points to lead the Lady Warriors while Bender scored 12.

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

TAKE AWAY

East Central Community College's Kristin Chaney steals the ball away from Northwest Community College's Sharlene Murphy during the championship game of the Region XXIII tournament at Mississippi College in Clinton on Thursday.

LAKE MESSENGER _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
UNION APPEAL _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
NEWTON RECORD _____
MERIDIAN STAR ✓
CLARION-LEDGER _____

East Central girls down Gulf Coast, stay alive in Region 2

From Staff Reports

CLINTON – A game that looked like an easy victory in the first eight minutes turned into a battle for East Central Community College in the Region 23 tournament Tuesday afternoon.

The Lady Warriors opened the game with a 23-6 run but had to fight to hold off Gulf Coast in the second half for a 75-62 win at Mississippi College in Clinton.

East Central, the defending Region 23 champions, improves to 19-9 and will play the Mississippi Delta-Jones winner at 6 p.m. today.

"They are too good a team to try to win the game in the first eight minutes," ECCC coach Brad Hodge said. "Fortunatley when we got into the last five minutes we made free throws and made stops on the defensive end."

ECCC opened the game on fire as Kristen Chaney connected on two three-pointers and hit three free throws in a 23-6 run to open the game.

Gulf Coast slowly battled its way back and scored the final points of the first half to cut the lead to 37-28 at the half.

In the second half, East Central opened with two free throws but Gulf Coast went on a 10-2 run to cut the lead to 41-38 with 14:26 left in the second half.

The two teams traded baskets down the stretch. Gulf Coast cut the lead to 57-55 with 7:04 left. East Central outscored Gulfcoast 18-5 over the final five minutes and hit 14 free throws to hold on for the win.

Chaney finished with 16 to lead East Central and India Backstrom and Shannon Lloyd both chipped in 13 points.

Miss. Delta 59, ECCC 51

A second-straight state tournament title was not in the cards for the East Central Community College Lady Warriors who fell 59-51 to Mississippi Delta Community College Wednesday night in semi-final action of the MACJC Basketball State Championship held at Copiah-Lincoln Co
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APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WEEK OF March 14

ECCC PHOTO

Lady Warriors India Backstrom (left) of Neshoba Central and Newton County High School product Kristin Chaney were named to the Region 23 All-Tournament Team following EC's 58-55 loss to Northwest in the title game Thursday night. The Lady Warriors advanced to the championship contest after posting wins over Gulf Coast (75-62) and Delta (75-74).

Lady Warriors Advance In Post-Season

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—It seemed only fitting following last Wednesday's dramatic win that the East Central Community College Lady Warriors would need a last-second shot in hopes of claiming back-to-back Region 23 Tournament titles, but Kotreece Bender's three-pointer at the buzzer was off the mark and Northwest Mississippi Community College held on for 58-55 decision.

The loss came in the championship contest held Thursday night at Mississippi College's A. E. Wood Coliseum in Clinton.

East Central, which advanced to the title game after Kristin Chaney's three-point buzzer-beater gave the Lady Warriors a 75-74 overtime win over the state champion Mississippi Delta Community College Lady Trojans in semi-final action, finished with a 20-10 record under fourth-year head coach Brad Hodge. Chaney had also launched a successful trey sending the contest into the extra period.

The Lady Rangers are now 18-11 and will represent the state in the NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship scheduled next week in Salina, Kan.

Tierra Young led EC scorers in the title matchup with 16 points. Other point makers included Bender, 12 points; Roxana Rogers of Lake, nine; Kim Cox, also of Lake, eight; Chaney, six; and Shannon Lloyd , four. Chaney and India Backstrom were named to the Region 23 All-Tournament Team.

Chaney's Victorious In Semi-Finals

Chaney's three-point shot as time expired sent the contest into the extra period tied at 57-57, had 31 points to lead the Lady Warriors who improved to 20-9, while the Lady Trojans - who won the state title last week- fell to 19-8.

The win was also a little sweet redemption as East Central fell to Delta 59-51 in the state semi-finals the previous week.

Not only did Chaney's trey win the game, she scored the game's final seven points to rally the Lady Warriors from a six-point deficit with 29 seconds remaining.

Coach Hodge had nothing but praise for the Lady Warriors, who found a way to win the contest after trailing throughout most of the second half and were down 31-26 at the break.

"Perseverance was obviously a big key. We just got down and never quit. If you want to win championships, you have to demonstrate the heart of a champion, and this group did that," Hodge said.

Other Lady Warrior point makers included Backstrom, 14; Bender, 10; Roxanna Rogers of Lake, eight; Kim Cox of Lake and Sara Judice, four each; and Lloyd and LaSaundra Harrison, two each.

Earlier in the tournament, Chaney pumped in 16 points and Backstrom added 15 to lead East Central to a 75-62 win over Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College last Tuesday in the first-round.

In addition to Chaney and Backstrom, other EC point makers included Shannon Lloyd, 13; Bender, 10; Cox (Lake), nine; Young, six; Harrison, five; and Judice, one.

The Lady Warriors, who led by as many 17 points in the first half, settled for a 37-28 advantage at the break. Gulf Coast came within two points of the Lady Warriors in the second half, but an 18-5 run put the game out of reach.

WEEK OF March 14

ECCC Lady Warriors Defeat Gulf Coast In 1st-Round Region Action

CLINTON--Kristin Chaney pumped in 16 points and India Backstrom added 15 to lead the East Central Community College women's basketball team to a 75-62 win over Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Tuesday afternoon in first-round action of the 2005 Region 23 Community/Junior College Tournament being held at Mississippi College in Clinton.

With the win, the defending Region 23 champs improved to 19-9 overall while the Lady Bulldogs completed their season at 21-6. The Lady Warriors face the state champion Mississippi Delta Community College Lady Trojans (19-7) today at 6 p.m. in semi-final action. East Central fell to Delta 59-51 in the state semi-finals last week.

In addition to Chaney, a Newton County High School product, and Backstrom, a former standout at Neshoba Central, other EC point makers were Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale, 13; Kotreece Bender of Newton, 10; Kim Cox of Lake, nine; Tierra Young of South Leake, six; LaSaundra Harrison of Union, five; and Sara Judice of Teurlings (La.) Catholic High School, one.

Gail Weary had 15 points to lead the Lady Bulldogs.

The Lady Warriors, who led by as many 17 points in the first half, settled for a 37-28 advantage at the break. Gulf Coast came within two points of the Lady Warriors in the second half, but an 18-5 run put the game out of reach and sent the EC women to the semi-finals.

Chaney's Three-Pointer Gives ECCC 75-74 Victory Over Delta In Region Semi-Finals

Kristin Chaney's three-point shot as time expired in overtime lifted East Central Community College to a 75-74 win over Mississippi Delta Community College Wednesday night in semi-final action of the Region 23 Community/ uled March 21-26 in Salina, Kansas.

Not only did Chaney's trey win the game, the Newton County High School product scored the game's final seven points to rally the Lady Warriors from a six-point deficit with 29 seconds remaining.

In his post-game interview, Coach Brad Hodge had nothing but praise for the Lady Warriors, who found a way to win the contest after trailing throughout most of the second half and were down 31-26 at the break.

"Perseverance was obviously a big key. We just got down and never quit. If you want to win championships, you have to demonstrate the heart of a champion, and this group did that," Hodge stated.

In addition to Chaney, other Lady Warrior point makers were India Backstrom of Neshoba Central, 14; Kotreece Bender of Newton, 10; Roxanna Rogers of Lake, eight; Kim Cox of Lake and Sara Judice of Teurlings (La.) Catholic High School, four each; and Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale and LaSaundra Harrison of Union, two each.

75-62

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER X

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

IMPACT

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

Junior College Tournament being held at Mississippi College's A.E. Wood Coliseum on the Clinton campus.

Chaney, whose three-pointer sent the contest into the extra period tied at 57-57, had 31 points to lead the Lady Warriors who improved to 20-9, while the Lady Trojans - who won the state title last week- fell to 19-8.

The ECCC women are one win away from a second-straight Region title, and will face Northwest Mississippi Community College at 6 p.m. tonight in the championship contest. The winner advances to NJCAAA Women's Division I Tournament sched-

Latisha Brown led Delta with 14 points.

ECCC Lady Warriors Denied Consecutive Region 23 Titles

It seemed only fitting following Wednesday night's dramatic win that the East Central Community College Lady Warriors would need a last-second shot in hopes of claiming back-to-back Region 23 Tournament titles, but Kotreece Bender's three-pointer at the buzzer was off the mark and Northwest Mississippi Community College held on for 58-55 decision in the championship contest held Thursday night at Mississippi College's A. E. Wood Coliseum in Clinton.

East Central, which advanced to the title game after Kristin Chaney's three-point buzzer-beater gave the Lady Warriors a 75-74 overtime win over the state champion Mississippi Delta Community College Lady Trojans in semi-final action, finished with a 20-10 record under fourth-year head coach Brad Hodge. Chaney had also launched a successful trey sending the contest into the extra period.

The Lady Rangers are now 18-11 and will represent the state in the NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship scheduled the week of March 21 in Salina, Kansas.

Tierra Young of South Leake led EC scorers in the title matchup with 16 points. Other point makers were Bender, of Newton, who had 12 points; Roxana Rogers of Lake, nine; Kim Cox, also of Lake, eight; Chaney, a product of Newton County High School, six; and Shannon Lloyd , four. Chaney and Neshoba Central product India Backstrom were named to the Region 23 All-Tournament Team.

Nikita Taylor of Holly Springs led Northwest with 19 points and Candy Hall of Robinsonville added 16. The scored was tied 28-28 at halftime.

Lady Warriors India Backstrom (left) of Neshoba Central and Newton County High School product Kristin Chaney were named to the Region 23 All-Tournament Team

WEEK OF April 11

JUCO All-Star Basketball Games Scheduled April 16 at Choctaw Central

DECATUR--The top community and junior college basketball players in the South Division will battle the best of the North when the MACJC All-Star Basketball Games are held Saturday, April 16 at Choctaw Central High School. Tip-off is 1 p.m. for the women's game with men's action scheduled at 3 p.m. Admission is $5. The annual event is hosted by East Central Community College in Decatur. Sponsors, in addition to ECCC, are Pearl River Resort, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians and Mississippi Sports Medicine. South women All-Stars are Travalyn Smith and Gloria Lewis, both of Copiah-Lincoln; Kristin Chaney and Kotreece Bender, East Central; Jasmine McClindon and Shareada

See "ECCC" page 6

Walker, Gulf Coast; LaShandra Pryor, Hinds; Natalie Jordan and Brittany Baham, Jones; Karamethia Mazique, Meridian; Carmen Labat, Pearl River; and Tiffany Aych, Southwest. Coaches are Greg Holmes (head) and Melanie McMains (assistant) of Gulf Coast. Members of the South men's All-Star squad are Ledell Eackles and Dexter Middleton, both of Copiah-Lincoln; Andrew Lewis, East Central; Courtney Brown and Garland Stewart, Gulf Coast; Kiki Christmas and Brandon Washington, Hinds; Jammie Evans, Jones; Rico Gray, Meridian; Napolean Roberts, Pearl River; and Devin Jones and Torry Crumedy, Southwest. Coaches are Wendell Weathers (head) and assistant Brad Bunch of Gulf Coast. North women All-Stars are Kimberly Bass, Coahoma; Ashley Howard and Shalonda Williams, Holmes; Shayla Long and Amanda North, Itawamba; Jazmine Cain and Vancherrika Mitchell, Mississippi Delta; Ashley Jones, Lauren Ford and Brittany Wilson, Northeast; and Nakita Taylor and Takela Gunn, Northwest. Coaches are Chanda Rigby (head) and Danny Robertson (assistant) of Holmes. Members of the North men's All-Star team are Richard Cannon and Josh Armstrong, Coahoma; Boo Ramsey and Phillip Lockhart, East Mississippi; Terrence Akins, Holmes; Courtney Bradley and Reggie Gunn, Itawamba; Darnell Toy, Jr., Mississippi Delta; Joseph Childers, Northeast; and Lamar Sanders, Byron Ray and Joemal Campbell, all of Northwest. Coaches are Todd Kimble (head) and Danny Robertson (assistant) of Holmes. For more information contact ECCC women's basketball coach Brad Hodge (ext. 372) or men's coach Billy Smith (ext. 243), Phone 601-635-2111.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

IMPACT

WEEK OF April 11

North teams post MACJC All-Star victorie

from staff reports

The North All-Star teams took a pair of wins over the South in the MACJC All-Star basketball games held at Choctaw Central High School on Saturday afternoon.

The North men led by 15 points at halftime and pulled out a 129-99 victory. In the women's game, the North All-Stars led by 13 at half and took an 87-58 win.

"The margin of victory was spread out in both but they were entertaining at both ends," said ECCC women's head coach Brad Hodge. "There were a lot of tremendous athletes playing and this was a good showcase."

The Lady Warriors sent three players to the game and each played well. Kim Cox was a late addition to the South roster and played well in the contest.

"Kim did an outstanding job," Hodge said. "She played good defense and did the all the things she did for us all year. She just does the things that kind of go under the radar."

Kristin Chaney and Kotreece Bender came from softball and shook off the rust to help represent East Central in the contest. Both players played well, and Bender scored six points in the game.

Karmethia Mazique represented Meridian Community College in the game and played solid point guard for the South squad.

Natalie Jordan and Brittany Baham both represented the Lady Bobcats of Jones County Junior College in the contest. Baham finished the night as the South's second-leading scorer with 10 points.

Ashley Howard of Holmes scored 17 points and Nikita Taylor of Northwest scored 15 to lead the North team. The two players were named co-MVP for the game.

Jazmine Cain of Mississippi Delta scored 11 points for the North team in the win.

Travalyn Smith of Co-Lin scored 12 points for the South while Jasmine McClindon of Gulf Coast scored 10 points in the loss.

In the men's game, Joemal Campbell of Northwest scored 32 points to lead the North and pick up the MVP honor.

Northwest's Lamar Sanders scor points and Courtney Bradley of Itav scored 19 points. Byron Ray of Nor added 17 points for the North in the w

Ledell Eackles of Co-Lin led the Sou 20 points and Napoleon Roberts of Pear scored 17 points.

East Mississippi's Boo Ramsey and Lockhart played for the North in the w

Andrew Lewis of East Central scor points for the South squad and Rico Gr resented MCC on the team.

Jammie Evans represented Jones College on the South team.

— Ryan S

APPEARED IN:

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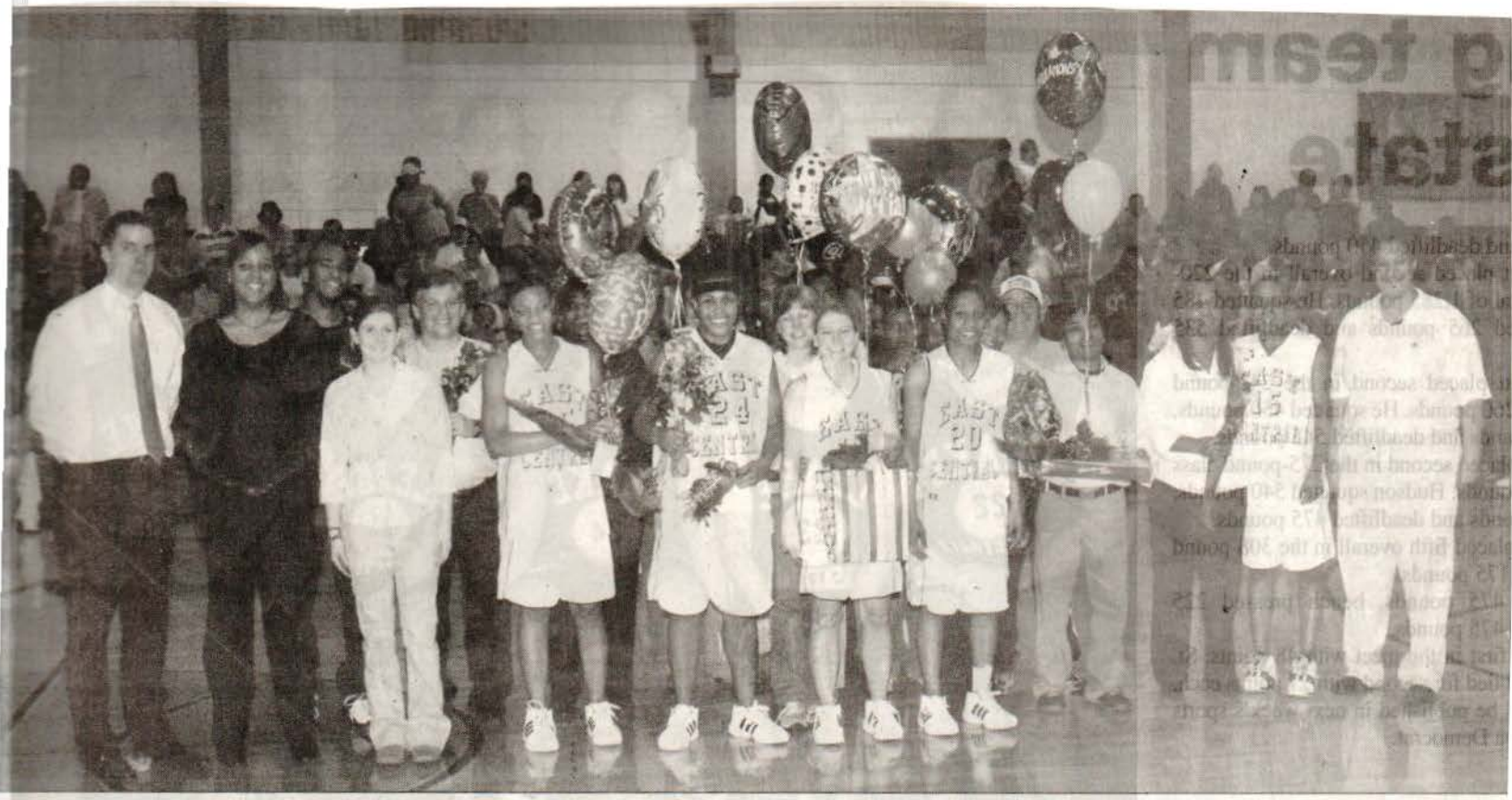
WEEK OF April 11



School Photo

Sophomore members of the East Central Community College Lady Warrior basketball team received special recognition and were presented roses during the group's last home game on Feb. 21, against Meridian Community College. Pictured are (from left) head coach Brad Hodge, student assistants Krystle Hunter of Noxapater and Ashley Clark of Starkville; India Backstrom of Neshoba Central, Kotreece Bender of Newton, Kristin Chaney of Newton County, Kim Cox and Roxana Rogers, both of Lake; and assistant coach Zareth Gray. Team members are pictured with family and friends who honored them with various gifts.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF

Chaney honored again by NJCAA

by Marty Stamper

Most times women won't react favorably if you call them a two-timer.

Kristin Chaney, however, might just give you a big smile if you call her one.

The 5-foot-4 East Central Community College sophomore point guard was recently named a second-team NJCAA All-American in basketball.

That, along with second-team All-American status as a freshman on the ECCC softball team, puts Chaney in a rather select club of being a two-time NJCAA All-American in separate sports.

As a sophomore, Chaney averaged 13.1 points for the 20-10 Region 23 runner-up Lady Warriors. She also averaged 4.3 assists and 4.2 rebounds. As a freshman, Chaney averaged 10.9 points, 2.2 assists, and 3.4 rebounds on a 31-4 Region 23 champion team that finished eighth nationally at Salina, Kan.

Chaney will sign a basketball scholarship with the University of Southern Mississippi on April 19. She will also play softball at USM.

That she excelled in softball at ECCC came as no surprise. The level her basketball game rose to is whole 'nother story.

"I never dreamed I'd make it in basketball," the Little Rock legend said. "Coming from (Newton County) High School, our high school was a softball-oriented school instead of basketball. I've got to give (ECCC head) coach (Brad) Hodge a lot of credit for where I am and for getting All-American."

Few thought success on the hardwood would come her

Continued on 7A...
See Chaney...

Chaney...

Continued from 6A...

way, Chaney said.

"I know a lot of people thought I'd never step foot on the court at East Central," Chaney said. "I'm glad I proved them wrong. I know I've got a lot of critics that say I won't step foot at Southern, but I hope I can prove them wrong too.

"Right now, I'm the only point guard that they're bringing in along with the one they had last year.

"Everybody always said that softball was my sport and it's just kind of natural, especially with my height."

"That just shows you what kind of competitive student-athlete she is," Hodge said. "To be named second-team All-American thus far in two separate sports shows you what kind of athlete she is and what she's capable of doing.

about the time and effort she's put into it throughout her years of playing. She obviously was raised the right way.

"We're very excited and proud to be a part of that."

Even Hodge was surprised by how well Chaney developed on the court.

"Never did I imagine she would do what she has brought to this team," Hodge said. "Fifty-one wins in two years with her at the point guard says a lot. It was not in my forethought that she would do that, but that just shows you if you come and take advantage of situations and work hard every day, good things will happen.

"In the process, she was surrounded by good players too. A lot goes to her teammates being good teammates and willing to share the glory with her. Having good teammates took some of the pressure off her. Teams weren't able to attack

Going to the NJCAA national tournament as a freshman allowed Chaney to see just how good athletes in the NJCAA from other states are and to appreciate her basketball honor even more.

"There's a lot of talent in juco, especially on the national tournament level," Chaney said. "It's unbelievable the kids you will see playing that could have gone Division I but chose to go the juco route for some reason. The talent is just incredible."

Chaney can look forward to many happy returns to the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building over the years as her picture will soon join the collection of athletes the school has honored by hanging their photographs on the wall.

"It's always been a recognition that I would like to have especially with my two brothers playing there," Chaney said. "I kinda guessed I'd follow

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF April 11

Two ECCC players set to move on

By Marty Stamper
staff writer

DECATUR— East Central Community College sophomores Kristin Chaney and Kim Cox signed basketball scholarships with four-year schools Tuesday morning in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Chaney signed with the University of Southern Mississippi, while Cox inked with the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Both were part of ECCC's school-record setting 31-4 Region XXIII championship and MACJC state championship team as freshmen and the Lady Warriors' 20-10 Region XXIII runner-up team this past season.

As a sophomore, Chaney averaged 13.1 points, 4.3 assists and 4.2 rebounds. She was recently named an NJCAA second-team All-American. She was selected to the all-region team both years and played in last weekend's MACJC All-Star Game at Choctaw Central.

Cox averaged 10 points and 5 rebounds as a sophomore. She was

See ECCC

From Page D1

a second-team all-state choice as a sophomore and also played in the all-star game.

Both Chaney and Cox had reasons for choosing their respective schools. For Chaney, it was a chance to play both basketball (2005-06 and 2006-07) and softball (2006-07 and 2007-08).

"A lot of people wanted me to go to Southern Miss because it's close to home," Chaney said. "They recruited me out of high school for softball.

"At one point, I didn't think I was going to get to go, but fortunately it worked out," Chaney added. "I'm just proud that I get to go down there. It's a good family environment. Coach (Joye) McNelis is looking to turn things around, so I'm excited."

Next year will be devoted strictly to basketball, Chaney said. But softball will only be a year away.

"I doubt I would have signed with them if I could have only played one sport. The one thing I wanted to do was play both sports at the next level," Chaney said. "I wouldn't trade these two years at ECCC for anything in the world. The friendships that I made with my teammates and the relationship that I have with the coaches, I wouldn't trade for anything.

"I'm glad I got to be part of this, along with the championships, but I'm ready to move on to Southern and see if we can win some championships there."

For Cox, it was a chance to reunite with former Lady Warriors assistant coach LaCole Brooks, now an assistant at UTM.

"That had a little bit to do with it," Cox said. "It's a good coaching staff up there. I got along well with the players and felt like it was a good fit for me.

"It was a great experience playing here. We had a lot of success. Going to the national tournament last year was the best experience ever. Hopefully, I can get that experience again at Tennessee-Martin."

ECCC head women's basketball coach Brad Hodge said it is tough to see the two players leave the program.

"They provided a lot for us over the two years," Hodge said. "It is a bittersweet feeling, but this is what their goal was when they came here and this is what we promised them — an opportunity to move on and extend their career.

"I think both institutions are getting two fine athletes that want to do whatever it takes to win. We're proud for them. They've been a special part to us and to East Central. It's an exciting moment for all of us."

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WEEK OF April 25

ECCC's Cox Signs With UT-Martin

DECATUR--East Central Community College basketball standout Kim Cox of Lake has signed a national letter of intent to continue her athletic career at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Cox, a 5-7 guard, averaged 10 points and five rebounds for the 20-10 Lady Warriors who were Region 23 Tournament runners-up and a semi-finalist in the MACJC State Tournament. The Lake High School product also helped lead the 2003-04 Lady Warriors to the Region 23, MACJC State and South Division crowns, and an Elite Eight finish in the NJCAA Tournament en route to a 31-4 record. Cox was named a second team All-State selection and All-Star following the 2004-05 campaign. Cox is shown with her mother, Margaret Cox, and (standing from left) ECCC women's assistant basketball coach Zareth Gray and head coach Brad Hodge. Kim's father, Grover Cox, is a member of the Mississippi Army National Guard and is serving is Operation Iraqi Freedom. (Note: Former ECCC assistant women's basketball coach Lacole Brooks is serving as an assistant at UT-Martin). **(EC Photo)**

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WEEK OF April 25

ECCC Shines In All-Star Juco Roundball Games

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—The North men's and women's teams cruised to victories over South squads in the annual MACJC All-Star Basketball Games held April 16 at Choctaw Central High School.

Joemal Campbell of Northwest dominated the backboards for 32 points as the North men rolled to a 129-99 victory.

Also scoring for the North were Jamar Sanders of Northwest, 20; Courtney Bradley of Itawamba, 18; Byron Ray of Northwest, 17; Josh Armstrong of Coahoma, 15; Terrance Akins of Holmes, 12; Richard Cannon of Coahoma and Boo Ramsey of East Mississippi, five each; Joseph Childers of Northeast, three; and Reggie Gunn of Itawamba, one.

South scorers were Ledell Eackles of Co-Lin, 20; Napoleon Roberts of Pearl River, 17; D. J. Jones of Southwest and Garland Stewart of Gulf Coast, 11 each; Rico Gray of Meridian, 10; Kiki Christmas of Hinds, nine; Courtney Brown of Gulf Coast, seven; Jammie Evans of Jones, four; and Andrew Lewis of East Central. Dexter Middleton of Co-Lin and Torry Crumedy of Southwest, two each.

In the women's contest, Ashley Howard of Holmes pumped in 17 points in leading the North to an 87-58 decision. Howard shared MVP honors with Nikita Taylor of Northwest, who had 15 points.

Other scorers were Jazmine Cain of Delta, 11; Lauren Ford and Ashley Jones, both of Northeast, nine each; Brittany Wilson of Northeast, five; Shalonda Williams of Holmes and Kimberly Bass of Coahoma, four each; Shayla Long of Itawamba, three; and Amanda North of Itawamba and Takela Gunn of Northwest, two each.

South point makers were Travalyn Smith of Co-Lin, 12; Jasmine McClindon of Gulf Coast and Brittany Baham of Jones, 10 each; Kotreece Bender of East Central, six; Natalie Jordan of Jones and Gloria Lewis of Co-Lin, four each; and Karmethia Mazique of Meridian, Carmen Labat of Pearl River and Shareader Walker of Gulf Coast, two each. Kristin Chaney and Kim Cox, both of East Central, and LaShandra Pryor of Hinds also saw action.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 5-23-05

Bender inks with Alcorn State

DECATUR — East Central Community College basketball standout Kotreece Bender of Newton has signed a national letter of intent with Alcorn State University, announced Lady Warrior head coach Brad Hodge.

Bender

Bender averaged 10 points and five rebounds for ECCC, which finished 20-10 in 2004-05 and were Region XXIII tournament runners-up. She also helped lead the 2003-04 Lady Warriors to the MACJC South Division and State titles and the Region XXIII tournament championship. East Central advanced to the NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship in Salina, Kan., where they were consolation bracket runners-up.

— school reports

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 5-23-05

Various honors were presented to the above members of the East Central Community College women's basketball team at the 2005 Spring Sports Awards Banquet held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Kristin Chaney of Newton County, most valuable player, co-team captain, Warrior Award co-recipient, second team All-American, first team All-Region 23 and All-State, All Region 23 Tournament Team and All-Star; Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale, best rebounder; and India Backstrom of Neshoba Central, Warrior Award co-recipient and All-Region 23 Tournament Team. Standing from left are Roxana Rogers of Lake, most improved; Kim Cox of Lake, best defender, co-team captain award and second team All-State; and Tierra Young of South Leake, Newcomer of the Year. Not pictured is Kotreece Bender of Newton, best offensive player and co-team captain award. The awards were presented by Lady Warrior head coach Brad Hodge. The ECCC women were Region 23 Tournament runners-up and finished with a 20-10 record.

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NEWTON RECORD ✓

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WEEK OF June 20

ECCC PHOTO

LADY WARRIOR ALL-STARS

Three members of the East Central Community College women's basketball team were selected to participate in the MACJC All-Star Basketball Games held Saturday, April 16 at Choctaw Central High School in Choctaw. South team members Kotreece Bender (40) of Newton, Kristin Chaney (21) of Newton County and Kim Cox (20) of Lake are shown with Lady Warrior head coach Brad Hodge and assistant Zareth Gray prior to the annual matchup, which was won 87-58 by the North squad. All three played but only Bender got on the scoreboard as she tallied six points. East Central serves as host of the All-Star basketball games. Other sponsors are the Pearl River Resort, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Pepsi and Mississippi Sports Medicine.

APPEARED IN:

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NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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Hodge steps down as EC women's basketball co

by Marty Stamper

East Central Community College women's head basketball coach Brad Hodge recently announced his resignation and has accepted a similar position at Birmingham-Southern College, a member of the NCAA Division I and Big South Conference.

BSC is a private liberal arts college in Birmingham, Ala., and is associated with the Methodist church.

The Panthers finshed 13-15 last year under Janine Hoffman, who resigned following her fifth year with the program to return to her native Washington. Hoffman had a 77-62 composite record at BSC.

Hodge confirmed he is bound for BSC Monday night.

"I have accepted the head coaching job," Hodge said. "I'll be leaving some time next week. The official announcement there will be next week. Then I'll have to hit the road recruiting because July is when the NCAA recruiting period starts."

Hodge served four seasons as head coach of the ECCC Lady Warriors, who finished the 2004-05 season with a 20-10 overall record and were runners-up in the Region 23 Tournament and a semifinalist in the MACJC state tournament.

His 2003-04 team captured the South Division, MACJC and Region 23 titles, and had an Elite Eight finish in the NJCAA Tournament en route to a 31-4 record which set the school record for wins in a season.

That same year, Hodge was named MAC (Mississippi Association of Coaches) Community/Junior College Women's Basketball Coach of the Year and received the same honor on the Region 23 and state levels.

He led the 2002-03 Lady Warriors to a 15-11 mark and berths in the Region 23 and MACJC tournaments.

The EC women also posted a winning record in his inaugural season as head coach, finishing with a 14-11 record. The Lady Warriors were state semifinalists that season and advanced to the Region 23 Tournament.

Prior to being named head coach of the Lady Warriors, Hodge served as assistant men's and women's coach at EC for two years under Sammy Pace.

Brad Hodge

The ECCC Years	
2001-02	14-11
2002-03	15-11
2003-04	31-4
2004-05	20-10
Total	**80-36**

Hodge is also a former assistant men's basketball coach at the University of Louisiana-Monroe and Athens State College in Alabama.

Hodge and his wife, the former Alida Jones of Decatur, Ala., have an infant son, Alex.

"It's close to home," Hodge said of the move. "It's right near her family and mine.

"It's a Division I head coaching job and I never would have thought that would have happened. It's just one of things that the good Lord has blessed me with. I'm definitely going to take advantage of it."

One of the teams on BSC's schedule this season will be Mississippi State. The athletics director at BSC is Joe Dean, Jr., a former basketball player at Mississippi State.

"We'll be coming over to play State," Hodge said. "And we'll be playing in a tournament in New Orleans."

Nikki LaCour, a former EC standout player before transferring to Louisiana-Monroe, was expected to be a Lady Warrior assistant this season, but will instead join Hodge at BSC.

Nikki LaCour

The ECCC public information department contributed to this story.

At The Big Show

Brad Hodge, right, and then ECCC women's b ball coach Sammy Pace just prior to an NJCA Tournament game with Cloud County (Kan.) College in 2001 at Salina, Kan. ***Photo by Mart***

2005

FILE PHOTO

One of the highlights of the Brad Hodge era at East Central Community College was a state title in 2004.

Hodge leaves ECCC for BSC

From staff reports

Brad Hodge turned plenty of heads during the past two seasons as the head women's basketball coach at East Central Community College.

Now, Hodge will get the opportunity to do the same at a Division I school.

Hodge announced early last week that he was leaving ECCC to take the head women's job at Birmingham Southern College – a private liberal arts school that is a member of the Big South Conference.

"It's a Division I head coaching job ... I never would have thought that would have happened," Hodge said. "It's just one of those things that the good Lord has blessed me with. I'm definitely going to take advantage of it."

"It's a Division I head coaching job ... I never would have thought that would have happened. It's just one of those things that the good Lord has blessed me with. I'm definitely going to take advantage of it."

Brad Hodge

Former ECCC women's basketball coach

Hodge was 80-36 in his four seasons as the head coach at ECCC after spending two years as an assistant to Sammy Pace.

"I have very high regards for him," ECCC president Phil Sutphin said of Hodge. "We wish him well as he moves to another level in his career. He's been here six years total ... he took what Sammy Pace had built from what Lucille Wood has done and moved it forward.

"It's been a storied program for years and he's just a classy guy," Sutphin said. "He represented the college well."

Sutphin said the move is "basically going back home" for Hodge and his wife, Alida, who are both from the North Alabama area.

"It's right near her family and mine," Hodge said.

Hodge was 29-22 during his first two seasons in Decatur, but then went 31-4 during the 2003-04 cam-

Hodge

From Page 1B

paign. The Lady Warriors were the MACJC South Division, State and NJCAA Region 23 champions that year, setting a school record for wins and earning Hodge numerous Coach of the Year awards and advancing to the basketball assistant at the University of Louisiana-Monroe and Athens (Ala.) State College.

Hodge will be taking over a Lady Panthers program that went 13-15 last season.

"We are thrilled to have him," Birmingham Southern athletic director Joe Dean, Jr., said. "He has had a lot of success at East Central, and he gave us a

This past season, Hodge's bunch was 20-10 and made it to the Region 23 championship game.

"The hardest thing I've ever been through was facing the team and telling them," Hodge said. "It was so emotional ... we're family here.

"I can't emphasize how important East Central has been to us," Hodge said.

Prior to his arrival at EC, Hodge coached as a men's

Meanwhile, Hodge's departure leaves ECCC looking for a head coach with just a few weeks remaining until the start of the 2005 fall semester.

Sutphin said a search committee is in place, ECCC will advertise for its new coach, and he will make a recommendation for the position at the Aug. 9 board meeting.

WEEK OF 7-4-2005

ECCC has plenty of options

By Tony Krausz
sports editor

DECATUR — If all goes according to plan, East Central Community College will have a new head women's basketball coach in 30 days.

ECCC president Dr. Phil Sutphin said the junior college plans to announce Brad Hodge's successor by Aug. 9.

Hodge, who was the Lady Warriors' head coach for the past four seasons, left ECCC for a similar position at Birmingham-Southern College in late June.

ECCC athletic director Terry Underwood, who is also the school's head football coach, had received five strong inquiries for the women's coaching job prior to leaving for his vacation, according to Sutphin.

"Our biggest interest is to maintain the integrity of the program," Sutphin said. "After you maintain the integrity of the program, you look for quality athletes who are students and athletes who can come in and build a good team."

The applicants for the head coaching job will be reviewed by a five-person panel, and the list of potential head coaches will be narrowed to two candidates by the panel. Sutphin will make the final decision on the new head women's basketball coach.

Sutphin said the timeline to hire a new coach is short because the fall semester is fast approaching.

"We debated to make it even quicker, with school right around the corner," Sutphin said of the hiring process. "The women's basketball program is a pretty storied program, and we wanted to be sure that folks who are interested would have the opportunity to apply."

Hodge's successor at the helm of the Lady Warriors' program will have a rich history to live up to at ECCC.

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

WHOSE NEXT?

Former East Central Community College head women's basketball coach Brad Hodge claps his hands on the sideline in this undated photo from the 2003-04 season. ECCC is currently searching for Hodge's successor as the head coach of the Lady Warriors' program,

Smith Named ECCC Lady Warriors Coach

Rebels' Harrison Was Candidate For Position

By CHRIS ALLEN BAKER
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

A new coach will take the helm of the women's basketball program at East Central Community College following a selection process that included a Scott County coach as the only other finalist.

Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president, announced the appointment of Billy Smith as the new coach moments after the college's Board of Trustees approved the hiring Tuesday during its regular August meeting.

Smith has served as the college's men's basketball coach since 2001.

Chad Harrison, girl's basketball coach at Scott Central High School, was the other finalist for the post and expressed disappointment but also joy in retaining his current position.

"If I had gotten it, there is no question leaving here would've been tough," Harrison said. "I have had tremendous support from the team, the fans, parents and administration since I've been here."

Harrison said he kept the Lady Rebels informed every step of the way while he was a candidate for the ECCC job. He said there were mixed emotions of players wanting the best for him but also wanting him to stay.

"I am proud the kids could understand. This means we are teaching them the right things," Harrison said. "When I told them I wasn't leaving they had grins from ear to ear."

Harrison

Harrison, an alumnus of ECCC, said part of him was sad he was not chosen but he is happy to stay at Scott Central and pledged to continue supporting the college.

"I'll admit that I am disappointed. But President Sutphin felt like he made the decision that was best for EC and I support him," Harrison said.

Recognizing how the process affected Scott Central and the county school district, Harrison expressed appreciation for officials' support.

"I want to make this clear. I have a great, great job. I really do. This would have been devastating if that were not the case," Harrison said. "I appreciate Mr. (Principal Gene) Bright and Mr. (Superintendent of Education Frank) McCurdy. They were willing to allow me to make this move although it would have come at a tough time being so late in the year."

In 2005, Harrison will start his 11th season as the head coach of the Lady Rebels and holds an overall record of 189-133 including one state championship and one additional trip to the state tournament, seven trips to the south state tournament and two district championships.

Harrison said the team will regroup this year after losing quality players to graduation, but returning players will remain competitive and will give opponents their best.

"I'm glad to have this behind me and we can get back to getting ready for the season," Harrison said.

The fact that he was a candidate speaks well for everyone associated with Scott Central, Harrison said.

"Scott Central is a great place because the winningest coach at ECCC came from Scott Central and a coach from Scott Central was a finalist for the job," Harrison said. "That is a tribute to the players and kids we've had over the years."

Smith

Having sent eight signees to the college ranks, both of the Lady Rebels' seniors from last year's squad moved forward to play on the collegiate level.

Elyse Clay hit the 2,000 mark in points scored on February 21. Clay signed to continue her athletic career at East Central Community College.

Latasha Johnson hit the 1,000 mark in points scored on February 5. She will play for Mississippi Delta Community College in Moorehead.

Harrison has been known to praise his team whenever any achievements came along.

"I have always prided myself that we have been a team at Scott Central. I have been blessed to have some fine young ladies to play for me over the last 10 years," Harrison said.

"These young ladies have been committed to both me and the program.

"I appreciate their dedication and loyalty very much and I love them like they were my own," Harrison said.

Harrison said his candidacy with Smith was bittersweet but pledged his support for the new coach at ECCC.

"Billy is a close friend of mine and that is part of what made the process more difficult. I will remain loyal and help in any way I can," Harrison said.

Before arriving at East Central, Smith enjoyed a successful 16-year career leading the girls' basketball program at Neshoba Central High School. During his tenure, the Lady Rockets compiled a 388-151 mark, which included a state title and six district championships.

In all, Smith has 23 years coaching and teaching experience.

Smith succeeds Brad Hodge who was earlier named women's head basketball coach at Birmingham Southern.

Dr. Sutphin said the search is underway for a new men's head basketball coach. Interviews will be completed by the week of September 5.

WEEK OF August 08, 05

ECCC

From Page D1

present to the schoolboard by Sept. 13.

"We discussed a number of options, and the board approved the search for new applicants," Sutphin said of the men's coaching position.

Like ECCC, Smith, who is taking over the women's head coaching duties for the departed Brad Hodge, has his own rich tradition in female basketball.

Prior to coaching the Warriors, the 23-year coaching veteran guided the Neshoba Central girls' basketball team for 16 years.

Smith compiled a 388-151 record with the Lady Rockets.

"This is something I wanted to do, and I feel comfortable on the girls' side," Smith said. "I hope we can be just as successful as the team has been in the past. There is a good group of sophomores coming back and a strong freshmen class coming in."

The Lady Warriors went 20-10 and advanced to the Region XXIII championship game and the semifinals of the MACJC state tournament this past season under Hodge, who was named the women's head coach at Birmingham-Southern College in Birmingham, Ala., in June.

ECCC compiled a 31-4 record, advanced to the NJCAA national tournament and won the Region XXIII and MACJC state titles in 2003-04, and the Lady Warriors went 80-36 in Hodge's four years with the team.

"We feel confident that coach Smith will do a great job," said ECCC athletic director Terry Underwood. "He has coached our men's team for the last four years, and he had a successful run coaching the Neshoba Central girls' program prior to coming to East Central. We anticipate him continuing the strong tradition of our women's program."

Smith takes over women's basketball coaching duties

By Tony Krausz
sports editor

DECATUR — Billy Smith is adding two letters to his job title at East Central Community College.

Smith

ECCC president Dr. Phil Sutphin announced the junior college's men's head basketball coach for the last four season as the school's new women's head basketball coach on Tuesday.

"Coach Smith is a real strong individual in our athletic department," Sutphin said. "He will be able to recruit our talent-rich area and continue the rich tradition in women's basketball we have at East Central."

> *Coach Smith is a real strong individual in our athletic department.*
>
> ECCC president Dr. Phil Sutphin

Sutphin said ECCC has started a search for a new men's basketball coach, and the school president said he hopes to have a candidate to

See ECCC Page D3

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Lady Warriors hoping to get solid guard play from key players this season

By RYAN SATCHER
Staff Reporter

The East Central Community College women return a strong inside presence but will need to have several guards handle pressure to be successful this basketball season.

The Lady Warriors return just two sophomores and will need solid guard play from several players this season.

"Hopefully our guard play will help us," said ECCC coach Billy Smith. "Hopefully, they will help free up the inside for Shannon Lloyd and Sara Judice."

Lloyd and Judice are returning starters for the squad and the Lady Warriors will depend heavily on their inside play.

Lloyd is a 6-foot-2 sophomore center from West Lauderdale High. Judice is a 6-foot sophomore from Lafayette, LA.

The Lady Warriors will try to slow the game and use their inside play to be successful this season.

"We are going to be predominantly a half-court team," said Smith. "We will run we when can but we are going to rely on getting the ball inside."

To get the ball inside, East Central will need good play from several guards this year.

Sophomore Lasaundra Harrison will handle pressure at the point for the Lady Warriors.

Squad members include, front, from left, student assistants Kasenda Overstreet, Brandy Edwards and Lakeshia Bobbitt; seated from left, guards Tamika Triplett, Constance Hayes and Amanda Schmidt; forward Andrea Dubose and guards Heather Steele, LaSaundra Harrison and Emily Massey and standing from left, Princess Swilley, assistant coach; forwards Valerie Harris, Elyse Clay, Dominetrix Hunter of Philadelphia, Shannon Lloyd, Sara Judice and Jessica Anderson; guard Rosalind Jones and head coach Billy Smith.

Sophomore Heather Steele will also play guard for the team along with guard/forward sophomore Dominetrix Hunter.

Freshman Emily Massey of East Ranki will also need to step in for the Lad Warriors at guard this season.

Constance Hayes of Provine will als gives East Central depth at guard.

Sophomore Andrea Dubose will pla forward for the Lady Warriors. Elyse Cla of Scott Central and Valerie Harris of Lak will also play forward for East Central freshmen.

According to Smith, the freshmen shoul help the team when they get adjusted.

"They are having to adjust," said Smit "It may just take a few games to get the where they need to be.'

The Lady Warriors opened the seas with a 79-61 loss against Holmes last wee

"We looked average for our first gam said Smith. "We had a few problems w nervousness."

The Lady Warriors will compete South Division play against Pearl Riv Gulf Coast, Jones, Southwest, Co-L Hinds and Meridian.

"It is always a year-to-year leagu Smith said. "We will have to watch fo couple of weeks to see how good it is. U we see who is doing what it's hard to pi favorite."

EC men keep record perfect

WEEK OF 11/21/05

from combined reports

The East Central Community College Warriors added three more wins last week as they upped their record to 7-0 under first-year head coach Steve Hampton.

The Lady Warriors went 2-1 as they took their record to 4-3.

Holmes women 60
ECCC 55

The Lady Warriors let a half-time lead slip away in losing the Nov. 14 contest at Decatur.

The Lady Warriors, who fell to 2-3 under first-year head coach Billy Smith, were led by West Lauderdale's Shannon Lloyd with 13 points.

Also scoring for ECCC were Andrea Dubose of Newton County, 10; and LaSaundra Harrison of Union and Sara Judice, eight each.

Angie Bounds tallied 17 points to lead Holmes, 4-0.

ECCC men 78
Holmes 65

The Warriors improved to 5-0 with the Nov. 14 win in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

Sam Walton, a 6-foot-6 freshman forward from Jackson Lanier, was the leading scorer for ECCC, which is off to its best start in recent memory.

Other point makers for the Warriors were Earnesto Green with 12, Johnny Hodge nine, Ricardo Alcantar and Odell Carter eight each, and Andre Coleman and Rodney Turner six each.

Richard Griffin had 19 points to lead the Bulldogs, 2-3.

ECCC led 38-26 at halftime.

ECCC women 57
East Mississippi 51

Sophomore Sara Judice of Teurlings Catholic High School in Lafayette, La., pumped in 14 points to lead the Lady Warriors to Thursday's victory at Scooba.

ECCC, 3-3, also got 13 points from Andrea Dubose, nine from LaSaundra Harrison, eight from Shannon Lloyd, and four each from Dominetrix Hunter and Jessica Anderson.

"I think we had six trips in a row where we had turnovers," ECCC head coach Billy Smith said. "There's no excuse for that, but we did enough at the end to hang on and never let them get ahead. We made some clutch free throws down the stretch. That's a lot better than we've been doing.

"I thought we played a little bit better than we played the last game. Scooba's got a much improved ballclub. Any time you can get a win on the road, it's good."

Jennifer Jones had 16 points to lead East Mississippi, which fell to 3-4.

ECCC led 34-23 at halftime.

ECCC men 82
East Mississippi 70

Sam Walton had 18 points to lead the Warriors to Thursday's win at Scooba.

The 6-0 Warriors also got 12 points each from Earnesto Green, Rodney Turner, and Johnny Hodge, eight from Ricardo Alcantar, seven from Brian Johnson, and six from Coshune Bingham.

"We've got a lot of improvement to do, but the positive thing about it is we're 6-0," Warriors' head coach Steve Hampton said. "I'm never going to be satisfied, but I think we can do a whole lot better than we're doing.

"Our defensive intensity was poor. I didn't think we got after it like we should have. To play in the South Division, we're going to have to get a whole lot better."

Cornelius Miles had 20 points to lead EMCC, which fell to 3-3.

The Warriors held a 36-27 advantage at the break.

East Central women 71
Mississippi Delta 65

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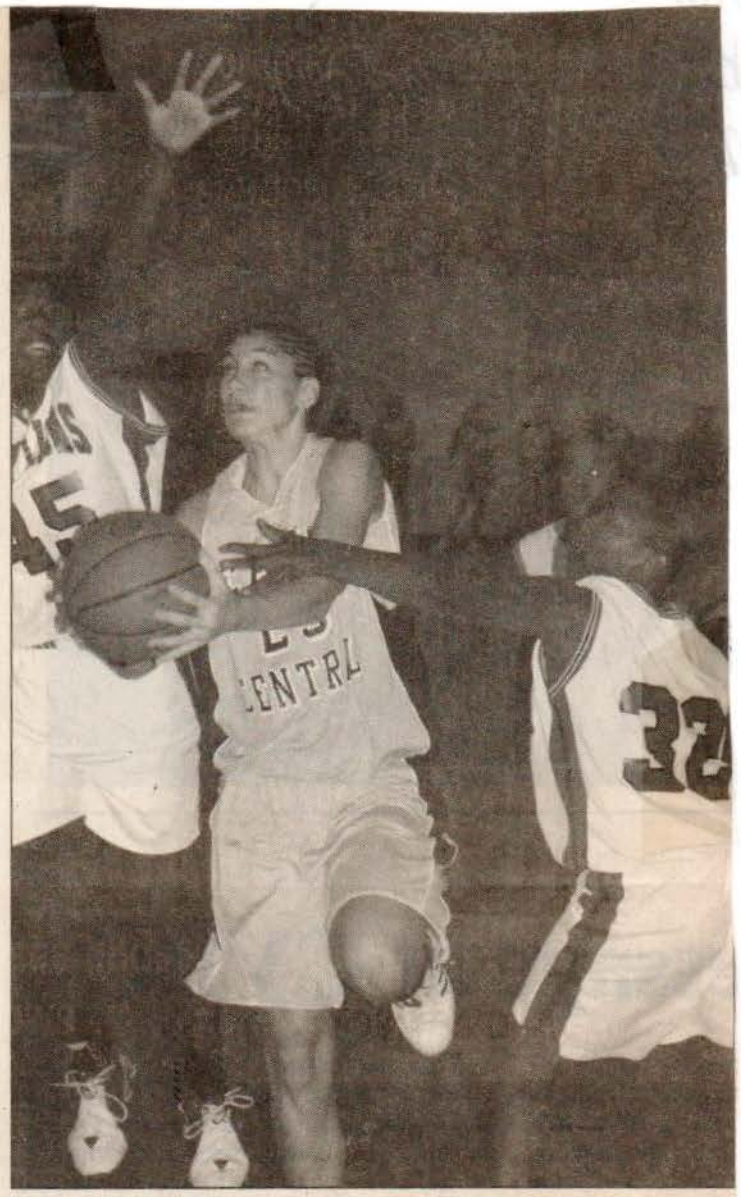

Splitting the Double Team

East Central's Sara Judice beats a pair of East Mississippi defenders for a basket in Thursday's 57-51 win at Scooba. ***Photo by Marty Stamper.***

The Lady Warriors took a 35-25 lead into halftime as they improved to 4-3 with Saturday's win at Decatur.

ECCC got 17 points from Shannon Lloyd, 13 from Andrea Dubose, 11 each from Valerie Harris and Sara Judice, nine from LaSaundra Harrison and eight from Elyse Clay.

Delta, 4-3, got 14 points from Jameica Gross and 12 from Tawana Marshall.

East Central men	**73**
Mississippi Delta	**57**

The Warriors forced 40 Trojan turnovers as they improved to 7-0 with the homecourt win at Decatur Saturday night.

"The defensive effort was a whole lot better tonight," said ECCC first-year men's coach Steve Hampton. "It was a good team win, probably the best since Bevill State."

ECCC outrebounded the Trojans 42-28.

Sam Walton led the Warriors with 14 points and five rebounds. Johnny Hodge had eight points, four assists and four rebounds. Brian Johnson had 11 points and four rebounds. Ricardo Alcantar added eight points and three steals. Earnesto Green and Jacquas Jones both scored seven points.

ECCC led 42-32 at halftime.

Cordarell Person led the Trojans, 3-4, with 13 points.

WEEK OF 11/28/05

EC teams take two at ICC

from combined reports

The East Central Community College basketball teams took a pair of road wins over Itawamba Community College on Nov. 21 at Fulton.

The Lady Warriors improved to 5-3 with a 63-52 win, while the Warriors upped their record to 8-0 with a 68-60 victory.

The Warriors were listed as receiving votes in the Nov. 22 NJCAA men's poll. It marks a rare appearance by the ECCC men on the national scene.

"We've got a lot of work to do, but we're happy to be 8-0," ECCC men's head coach Steve Hampton said. "We'e played a lot harder the last two games.

"I just hate that we've had this layoff. I don't want it to mess us up. We were actually starting to play pretty good."

The Warriors are off this entire week and will have a 13-day layoff before playing at Mississippi Delta on Dec. 5. A road game at Northeast Mississippi on Dec. 8 will wrap up first-semester play. ECCC won't see action again until Jan. 5 when the Warriors host Itawamba.

"We've just got to make sure everybody stays eligible and keep everybody healthy and in somewhat decent shape," Hampton said. "We've got two tough road games next week at Delta and Northeast.

"The kids are working hard. We're doing a lot of good things. I told them when I got here that all I ever heard was that East Central men couldn't win. I thought it was time we changed that. I think we've proved you can win.We've got it going in the right direction, we've just got to keep working.

"There's a lot of people that have played teams from the South (Division) that have said if we continue to play like we are, we'll do fine in the South. Of course, two of our first four (division) games are against two of the supposedly favorites in the South in Gulf Coast and Hinds.

"We start off at Co-Lin and that's not easy either.

"But we're excited about it. I told them I was proud of them and that was a testament to how hard they've worked. If we keep it going, maybe we'll get in the Top 20 next time."

ECCC men	**68**
Itawamba	**60**

The Warriors handed the Indians their first loss with the eight-point win at the Rubberdome on Nov. 21.

Itawamba took an early 7-2 lead only to have the Warriors pull even at 16-16.

ECCC scored the final six points of the half to take a 34-31 lead into intermission.

The Warriors scored 11 of the first 17 points of the second half to extend their lead to 45-37.

The Indians closed to within 55-53 with 6:40 remaining, but ECCC halted the comeback bid and took the 68-60 win.

Johnny Hodge led ECCC with 18 points.

Earnesto Green and Bryan Johnson both had 10. Sam Walton tossed in seven and Rodney Turner scored six.

"I guess they're 8-0 now," ICC coach Marty Cooper said. "We couldn't stop Hodge off the dribble. He broke our defense down. His penetration to the basket threw our defense out of whack and got shots for his teammates."

Cooper previously was the head coach at ECCC.

Titus Penro was ICC's leading scorer with 12 points. Larricus Brown had 10. Mike Howell had nine.

ECCC women	**63**
Itawamba	**52**

A 19-0 run enabled the Lady Warriors to get the 11-point victory.

Itawamba led 28-20 with 1:26 left in the first half when the Lady Warriors started their game-winning run.

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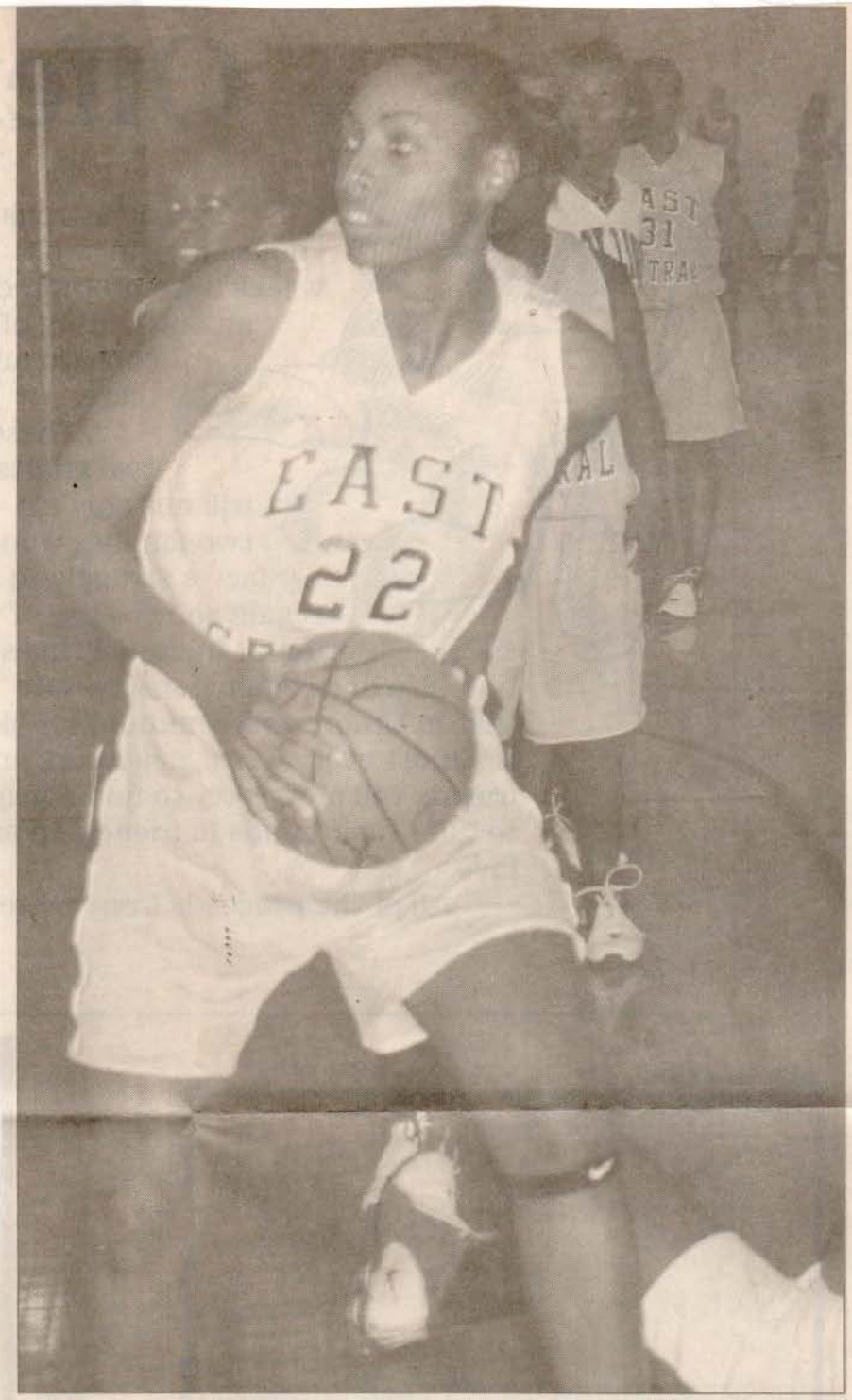

Shannon Lloyd scored 20 points to lead the Lady Warriors to a 63-52 victory at Itawamba last week. ***Photo by Marty Stamper.***

ECCC led by as many as 15 points before closing out with an 11-point win.

Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale led the Lady Warriors with a game-high 20 points. LaSaundra Harrison scored 14, Andrea Dubose had 12, and Sara Judice and Elyse Clay both had six.

Latanya Williams and Shameika Boyce each had 10 points for Itawamba.

WEEK OF 12/12/05

ECCC squads fall to Northeast

East Central Community College's Warrior and Lady Warrior basketball teams ended 2005 competition on a disappointing note by falling to Northeast Mississippi Community College squads Thursday night in Booneville.

The ECCC men were outscored 80-60 and the women were hammered 91-56 by the nationally ranked Lady Tigers.

Freshman forward Sam Walton, a product of Jackson Lanier, had 11 points to lead East Central, which dropped to 8-2. Other scorers were Brian Johnson of Jackson Provine, nine; Earnesto Green, also of Provine, seven; Andre Coleman of Louisville, Coshune Bingham of Newton and Paul Milligan of Chillicothe HS in Vernon, Tex., six each; Ricardo Alcantar of Newton County, Rodney Turner of Forest Hill and Johnny Hodge of Quachita Parish in Monroe, La., four each; and Mike Presendieu of New Dimensions HS in Orlando, Fla., three.

Northeast, which improved to 7-3, led 41-30 at halftime.

East Central defeated the Tigers 75-68 in early season

to close out 2005 competition

action.

LaSaundra Harrison of Union pumped in 17 points to lead the Lady Warriors, whose record slipped to 6-4. Other scorers were Shannon Lloyd of West Lauderdale, nine; Sara Judice of Teurlings Catholic HS in Lafayette, La., six; Valerie Harris of Lake, Dominetrix Hunter of Philadelphia, Andrea Dubose of Newton County and Elsye Clay of Scott Central, four each; Heather Steele of Nanih Waiya, Emily Massey of East Rankin Academy and Jessica Anderson of Newton, two each; and Tamika Triplett of Sebastopol and Constance Hayes of Jackson Provine, one each.

The Lady Tigers, ranked 19th in the latest NJCAA poll, led 37-26 at the break and improved to 7-1 following the nondivision matchup.

Northeast earlier defeated the Lady Warriors 72-63 in Decatur.

EC squads return to action following the Christmas holidays by hosting Itawamba Community College on Thursday, January 5. Tip-off times are 6 p.m. (women) and 8 p.m.

APPEARED IN:

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL X

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL X

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

IMPACT _____

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD X

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____